

'Hezbollah responsible for blast'

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. intelligence agencies have evidence that a militant Muslim group called Hezbollah, or the party of God, carried out the Sept. 20 truck-bombing of the U.S. embassy annex in Beirut, using explosives supplied from Iran, government officials said Friday. One administration official, who spoke on condition that he not be named, said the group is believed to have some of the explosives left over. The officials said the little-known group is based in Baalbek in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon, but its leaders are believed to travel widely in the country and are seldom together, making possible retaliation difficult. The officials added that the Party of God is one of a number of groups that operate under the name Islamic Jihad — or Islamic Holy War — and is believed to have been involved in earlier attacks against U.S. diplomatic buildings in the Middle East and the Marine barracks in Beirut.

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Envoy presents credentials to Greek president

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's newly-appointed ambassador to Greece, Awad Al Khalidi, Wednesday presented his credentials to Greek President Constantine Karamanlis. Meanwhile, Agency France Presse said Thursday that Greek Premier Andreas Papandreu will pay visits to Jordan and Syria during the period from Nov. 8 to 12. Mr. Papandreu visited Libya in September.

Challenger begins sixth mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The space shuttle Challenger blasted off from Cape Canaveral Friday carrying a record crew of seven on an eight-day scientific mission. Challenger, making its sixth flight and the 13th of the shuttle programme, lifted off from Kennedy Space Centre near here at 7:03 a.m. (1103 GMT) after a flawless countdown.

U.K. Labour votes to sever S.Africa ties

BLACKPOOL, England (AP) — The opposition Labour Party on Friday demanded that Britain sever all economic, military and diplomatic links with South Africa because of its system of apartheid. The resolution was adopted at the party's annual conference in this northwest England resort despite the opposition of Labour's leadership.

How to visit Israel this month

LONDON (R) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe will pay his first visit to Israel later this month, according to an announcement by the Foreign Office. The last British foreign secretary to go to Israel was Lord Carrington just before he resigned in April 1982 over the Argentine seizure of the Falkland Islands.

Soviet leader ends Iraq visit

BAGHDAD (R) — Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Yakov P. Ryabov left for home Friday expressing satisfaction with his talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and other officials, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported. The agency quoted Mr. Ryabov as expressing satisfaction with his talks here and saying Moscow wanted to develop relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

OIC seeks sanctions against Israel

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The secretary-general of the 45-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has called for sanctions against Israel and its unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon. In an address to a closed meeting of OIC foreign ministers, now in New York for the U.N. General Assembly, Habib Chatfi also urged the convening of an international conference on the question of Palestine.

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Special Arab summit unlikely, Moroccans say

RABAT (R) — A special Arab summit proposed by Morocco's King Hassan to discuss relations with Egypt looks increasingly unlikely, Moroccan officials said Friday.

A number of Arab heads of state have told the king's envoys, who suggested a meeting in Casablanca next week, that such a summit was unlikely in view of the regular Arab League summit planned in Riyadh next month. The key factor against the proposal, which was made by King Hassan as current Arab summit chairman, was the reserved reaction it received from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, they said.

Contrary to earlier reports from Arab diplomatic sources in Rabat, Saudi Arabia was not fully consulted about the king's initiative announced on Saturday, they said. King Hassan, who hosted the last Arab summit in Fez in September 1982, said he was consulting Arab heads of state on the need to hold a special summit on Jordan's decision to reestablish relations with Egypt.

Egypt was ostracised by the Arab World when Cairo signed a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

King Hassan's envoys explained that the special summit was not aimed at replacing the Riyadh summit but would help to prepare the Arab League's regular meeting, the officials said.

The king's initiative was immediately turned down late last month by Syria, the strongest critic of the reestablishment of relations between Amman and Cairo.

But Libya, which also condemned the Jordanian move and asked for an Arab boycott of Jordan, reacted favourably to Rabat's move, the officials said.

Algeria, which called for inter-Arab consultations on the issue, hinted through its official press that a special summit was "inopportune."

Sudan, one of three countries in the region which did not break relations with Cairo following the Egypt-Israeli treaty, was also hostile to the proposed summit. The officials said Sudan's reaction could be due to King Hassan's fresh alliance with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi who has often been accused by Khartoum of attempting to destabilise the Sudanese government.

King Hussein told an envoy from Rabat who saw him in the Hague that he was ready to take part in the Casablanca summit, a spokesman from the Moroccan embassy in the Hague said.

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Turkey, Jordan sign trade protocol

ANKARA (Petra) — Jordan and Turkey Friday signed a commercial protocol under which Turkey will import half-a-million tonnes of Jordanian phosphates, in addition to fertilisers and aluminium products.

The agreement also provides for cooperation in Tourism and establishing joint factories in both Jordan and Turkey.

Signing the agreement for Jordan was Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani, while Turkish Minister of Trade and Commerce Zahed Oral, signed it on behalf of Turkey.

On Thursday, Dr. Anani discussed with Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal scopes of economic cooperation between Jordan and Turkey.

Dr. Anani and the accompanying delegation Saturday leaves for Sofia where they are expected to hold talks with the Joint Jordanian-Bulgarian Economic Committee.

Syria endorses American mediation

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara'a endorsed a U.S. mediation role Friday aimed solely at removing Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Mr. Shara'a, after meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, stressed that a new U.S. initiative should have some kind of U.N. framework, and that any resulting agreement should place no conditions on Lebanon.

The Syrian foreign minister told the Associated Press that, during his 45-minute meeting with Mr. Shultz, the two had discussed "the responsibility and the role — the contribution — of the USA to help Lebanon in ridding itself from the Israeli occupation."

Mr. Shultz said Mr. Shara'a met while Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami was addressing the U.N. General Assembly.

Karami seeks talks with Reagan as Berri unveils new U.S. plan

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami said Thursday he had requested a meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan as Nabih Berri, a minister in the Karami cabinet, said the U.S. had proposed an eight-point plan for Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.

Mr. Karami, in New York to address the U.N. General Assembly and meet with other officials, including U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, told reporters he had made the request Wednesday and was not yet certain whether he would go to Washington.

In Washington, a White House spokesman said there were no plans for Mr. Reagan to meet Mr. Karami.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Karami emphasised his country's desire for U.S. help in solving Lebanon's problems.

Asked whether he thought the United States would act as a mediator in Lebanon, Mr. Karami replied: "Why not? If it is possible for America to solve such a great problem as the Middle East, and especially in Lebanon, it would be a good thing for all of us."

Earlier Thursday Mr. Berri was quoted as saying Beirut's daily As Saafir that the U.S. eight-point plan was presented by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy during visits to Beirut, Damascus and Israel last month.

Mr. Berri, accompanying Mr. Karami at the U.N. General Assembly in New York, was quoted as saying it included "eight points only... they contained positive and unacceptable elements."

He said positive elements were a total Israeli withdrawal, no linkage with a Syrian pullout from Lebanon and no suggestion of direct political negotiations between Israel and Lebanon.

But the plan also contained proposals needing consideration and others that were "totally rejected," Mr. Berri said.

Unacceptable proposals included "any direct negotiations, military or non-military," and any security role for the Israeli-sponsored "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia, he said.

Commenting on a U.S. decision not to mediate at present on an Israeli pullout, Mr. Berri said: "We have not called on them to assume this role. The role was originally played by the U.N. and the Americans intervened."

(U.N. Under-Secretary General) Brian Urquhart toured the region in connection with a specific operation related to an (Israeli) withdrawal and the Americans intervened," he said.

"We are not against this. What we are interested in is the principle of unconditional Israeli withdrawal. We don't care who undertakes this (mediation), whether America, France or whoever it may be," Mr. Berri added.



VIGIL IN CAIRO: Egyptian women wait outside a government shop in Cairo on Friday following an order earlier this week by President Hosni Mubarak to reduce prices of certain essential commodities and selected consumer items. Mr. Mubarak's order was issued after riots broke out in some parts of the country in protest against increased prices (AP wirephoto)

'Egypt remains committed to rights of Palestinian people'

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmad Esmat Abdul Meguid has said his country is committed to the need to ensure the "right to sovereignty of the people of Palestine over Jerusalem."

He was speaking Friday to a closed-door meeting of foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), to which Egypt returned earlier this year after being suspended in the wake of its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel.

"We reiterate the centrality of the question of Palestine within the Arab-Israeli conflict," Mr. Abdul Meguid said.

"We believe that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution for this conflict could not be achieved without responding to, and fulfillment of, the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people, particularly its right to self-determination and establishing its own independent state on its national soil," he said. A copy of his speech was made available to reporters.

"We are fully committed to the Arab character of Jerusalem, to the need of ensuring the right to sovereignty of the people of Palestine over Jerusalem, to the rejection of any attempt to annex or occupy this Holy City," he said.

Mr. Berri indicated the proposed security role for the SLA implied Israeli insistence on direct military negotiations with the Lebanese army, the newspaper said.

But he added Israel's acceptance of an increased security role for troops of the U.N. Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was "a positive change" in Israeli policy.

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Kreisky denies mediation role

DAMASCUS (R) — Former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky Friday denied he was mediating between Arab countries and Israel or that Austria was preparing a peace initiative. Dr. Kreisky had two lengthy meetings with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad during which he said they had discussed current Middle East and world developments. "I am not here as a mediator because I do not enjoy the confidence of both sides in the dispute," Dr. Kreisky told reporters before leaving at the end of his two-day visit. "I enjoy the confidence of the Arab side but Israeli leaders have no faith in me," he added. He declined to give details of his talks with Mr. Assad but said: "Because of the strong, effective role Syria can play in the Middle East question, our discussions centred on this. I assure you they were of an important nature." Asked if Austria was preparing a peace initiative for the Middle East, he said: "I am working personally and have no knowledge of any such plan or initiative."

242 should be basis for peace, Palme says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme Friday reaffirmed his country's view that any solution to the Middle East conflict should be on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 and supported Jordan's call for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In an interview with Jordan Television after official talks with His Majesty King Hussein, the Swedish premier also emphasised that a Middle East solution should essentially be based on the return of all Israeli-occupied territories to their legitimate owners.

Mr. Palme described Jordanian-Swedish relations as "excellent" and said there are a lot of possibilities to strengthen the

existing relations. Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor arrived in Stockholm Wednesday on a three-day visit. The King Friday headed Jordan's side to official talks with Mr. Palme. The talks were attended by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Jordan's ambassador to Sweden. On the Swedish side the talks were attended by top-ranking Swedish government officials.

Later on Friday the King held a press conference to the Swedish and international media. The King explained Jordan's views towards international moves to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict and efforts to end the Gulf war. He also replied to questions on Jordan's decision last week to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt.

House committees elect officials

AMMAN (J.T.) — Eight parliament committees, elected earlier this week by the Lower House of Parliament, met Thursday in separate sessions and elected their chairmen. Rizk Al Batayneh was elected chairman and Fawzi Farraj, rapporteur of the Foreign Affairs Committee; Khaled Al Haj Hassan was elected chairman and Leith Eshbeilat rapporteur of the Financial and Economic Committee; Fayez Al Qudah was elected chairman and Abdul Baqi Jammou rapporteur of the Legal Committee; Mohammad Al Haj Abdullah was elected chairman and Yusuf Al Azm rapporteur of the Administrative Committee; Farah Abu Jaber was elected chairman and Ati Abul Izz rapporteur of the Guidance and Tourism Committee; Yusuf Al Azm was elected chairman and Dr. Fawzi Tuemeih rapporteur of the Education Committee; Mifleh Al Oudetallah was elected chairman and Khaled Al Fayyad rapporteur of the Agricultural Committee; Daoud Suleiman was elected chairman and Leith Eshbeilat rapporteur of the Financial and Economic Committee; Fayez Al Qudah was elected chairman and Abdul Baqi Jammou rapporteur of the Legal Committee; Mohammad Al Haj Abdullah was elected chairman and Yusuf Al Azm rapporteur of the Administrative Committee; 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Beirut peaceful after wave of violence

Shi'ites quietly mark Ashura

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslims Friday peacefully celebrated their holiest festival, after a wave of fundamentalist violence in Beirut during the preceding 10-day mourning period.

Mainly-Muslim east Beirut, where gunmen have roamed unchecked and bars have been bombed or sacked, was tense but quiet as Shi'ites crowded into mosques for ceremonies and speeches.

Jets that screamed low over the city, intensifying the tension, were identified as either Israeli warplanes or Hawker Hunters of the Lebanese Air Force.

All but one "Green Line" crossing to east Beirut was closed as a precaution against sectarian violence, but despite the absence of troops and police from the streets of west Beirut there were no reports of incidents.

All shops and businesses were closed. Residents said it was the first time that west Beirut, hit-

herto considered a Sunni Muslim area, had shut down for the Shi'ite Ashura festival.

Sunni leaders have complained of anarchy by bands of gunmen during the Ashura mourning period, saying inhabitants were fleeing west Beirut, and have demanded army intervention.

The mainstream Shi'ite militia Amal also asked the army to intervene Thursday night, but there was no sign Friday of troops returning to patrol or checkpoint duties in the Muslim sector.

At the main Ashura celebration in the capital, attended by Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mahmoud Nourani, Lebanon's chief Shi'ite cleric Sheikh Muhammad Mehdi Shamseddine denounced sec-

ularism and urged increased resistance to Israeli troops in the South.

A radio report from the Shi'ite-dominated South said 100,000 people marched in angry procession through the streets of Nabatiyeh, the spiritual capital of Lebanese Shi'ites.

Sunni Muslim Murabitoun Radio said Nabatiyeh was under siege by Israeli troops who had banned all Ashura celebrations in the region, stepped up patrols and blocked main roads.

The report could not be confirmed since the Israelis have banned Beirut-based reporters from the South and local correspondents could not be reached by telephone.

Israeli troops last year aroused intensified southern resistance by firing on an Ashura procession by about 50,000 people in Nabatiyeh, killing one man and injuring nine.

In the largely-Shi'ite eastern Bekaa Valley, under Syrian occupation, black flags flew over village processions marking the death in 680 of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson Hussein, younger son of Imam Ali, founder of the Shi'ite sect.

In his speech, Sheikh Shamseddine warned the government against negotiating with Israel on a withdrawal from the South "because any negotiation would give Israel the seal of legitimacy and is considered a recognition of Israel."

"Southern Shi'ites would continue all-out resistance until they achieved an unconditional Israeli withdrawal."

"We thus declare our rejection of the new American initiative carried out by (U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard) Murphy and all other initiatives containing any conditions," Sheikh Shamseddine said.

Israelis besiege Palestinian camp

AMMAN (Agencies) — The Israeli authorities are reported to have closed eight approaches to the Duhieh refugee camp near Bethlehem on the occupied West Bank and maintained an armed presence around the camp refusing to allow people out or in.

The Israeli authorities had earlier lifted a total three-day curfew imposed on the refugee camp following the inhabitants' resistance to Zionist terrorist Meir Kahane's attempts to storm it, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra reported.

Reports said that the military governor of the West Bank "has threatened to escalate repressive measures against the Arab population if they intensify their resistance against Israel."

"Kahane had earlier tried to storm the camp, accompanied by a group of his Zionist supporters which prompted the Arabs population to confront him and foil the attempt," Petra added.

Meanwhile Arab inmates of a prison on the Israeli-occupied West Bank called off a 12-day partial hunger strike on Thursday night after some of their demands were met, one of the prisoners' lawyers said.

Ziad Abu Ziad, who represents several prisoners in the new maximum security jail in Nablus, told reporters he visited them and they said the strike had ended after "some demands for less crowded quarters and better food were met by the authorities."

Mordechai Wertheimer, pri-

sons authority director, confirmed the end of the protest.

Merchants in Arab East Jerusalem kept their shops shut Thursday in solidarity with the prisoners.

The prisoners say they live 14 or more in cells designed for six inmates. They also want more frequent family visits, more exercising time and better lighting in their cells.

Police Minister Chaim Bar-Lev said this week some of the prisoners' complaints were justified, but added that the protests were politically motivated.

With normally bustling streets in the walled old city deserted except for tourists, Israeli troops kept a low profile and no incidents were reported.

Jordan to take part in women journalists' conference

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in a seminar for Arab women journalists due to open here Saturday.

The three day meeting, to be held under the slogan of "Arab Information to Serve the Causes of Women Liberation and Arab Society" will discuss several issues concerning women journalists, the position of Arab women in information media and the role of trade unions in helping to promote the position of women in the Arab World.

Israeli premier under U.S. pressure to 'liberalise' West Bank policies

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Under renewed pressure by the United States government, Prime Minister Shimon Peres may liberalise policies toward Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, a senior Israeli official said Friday.

Mr. Peres has asked Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and economic advisers for "recommendations" to reopen a major West Bank university and improve economic development in the area, his political adviser said in a telephone interview.

The adviser, Nimrod Novick, said the premier was responding to some longstanding demands by Secretary of State George Shultz and to others that were raised in recent meetings in Israel by U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis.

Mr. Novick said that Mr. Peres, who took office three weeks ago, has "brought a slightly different approach" than the preceding Likud government toward the territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war.

The premier's ideas, announced two days before he leaves on a week-long trip to New York and Washington, have not yet brought any visible policy changes in the occupied areas.

The army, maintaining the old policy of collective punishment against Palestinians after disturbances, imposed a three-day curfew on the Dheish refugee camp south of Bethlehem this week. Eight entrances to the camp were sealed after stones were thrown at Israeli vehicles on the highway which passes the camp.

Mr. Peres' government also has not yet dropped a threat to shut down the Palestine Press Service, which monitors news in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Peres, seeking to appease Likud ministers in his bipartisan government, also was reported ready to be tough about continuing to build Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

The Davar daily, which is published by the Histadrut Labour Federation and is close to Mr.

Peres' Labour Party, quoted the premier as telling cabinet ministers that he would not agree to American demands for a settlement freeze if they were raised during his talks in Washington.

The newspaper quoted Mr. Peres as saying he would tell President Reagan that settlement policy is set by Israel "and not by outside orders. It's no secret there is controversy over this around this table, but we will decide and not anyone else."

But Mr. Peres has said he was ready to reconsider the previous government's rejection of Mr. Reagan's 1982 peace plan which called for a confederation between Jordan and the West Bank.

Mr. Novick said Mr. Peres also was considering reopening An-Najah University in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus.

The military government last July closed the university for four months, charging that students had displayed pro-PLO material during a Palestinian cultural festival.

RIYADH (R) — A Kuwaiti minister was quoted Friday as saying Kuwait felt the convening of an Arab summit proposed by Morocco's King Hassan would widen the split in the Arab World and increase inter-Arab differences at this stage.

As Sharq Al Awsat newspaper, published in Jeddah and London, quoted Kuwait's Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Hussein as saying his country was convinced of the need for a meeting of foreign ministers before convening a summit.

King Hassan has called for a summit next week to discuss relations with Egypt following Jordan's resumption of diplomatic ties with the Cairo government.

Syria has already rejected the call. Arab states except Sudan, Oman and Somalia have relations with Egypt after Cairo signed its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Prospects for holding a special Arab summit meeting next week



IN SEARCH OF CLUES: Two London detectives flew out to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia from Aug. 25 in London. (AP wirephoto)

1 dead, 28 hurt during Egyptian riots

CAIRO (R) — One resident was killed and 28 people were wounded, including eight police, in a riot last Sunday in Egypt's Nile Delta Town of Kafr Al Dawwar, Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi said Friday.

In the first official confirmation of casualties, Mr. Rushdi said police were forced to open fire when crowds threw stones at a police station.

He did not say what caused the riot.

In an interview with the semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram, he blamed the violence on what he called radical leftist elements, and 500 young factory workers.

Eyewitnesses said at the time three people were killed during protests by workers over higher pension contributions and rising

food prices.

Mr. Rushdi said the violence was limited to one town "but there are other attempts... there is continued vigilance and legal measures will be taken to confront them strictly in the line of duty."

He dismissed rumours of violence in the industrial Cairo suburb of Helwan, but people who live there say security has been stricter in the past few days.

Morocco willing to hold referendum on Western Sahara, minister says

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Morocco is still willing to cooperate with the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and hold a referendum to determine who should control the Western Sahara, Foreign Minister Abdul Ouahed Belkiz said Friday.

"A referendum, provides the objective basis for the solution to this problem and we are at all times ready to cooperate to this

end with the OAU," he said in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly.

In August this year Morocco announced it had formed a union with Libya which had hitherto supported Polisario Front guerrillas in their battle for independence.

Mr. Belkiz called the union "the first stone laid in the building

of the Arab Maghreb, on the path leading to greater Arab-African union."

He called the treaty honest and sincere. "It is an innocent treaty not aimed against any sectional interest," he said, adding that it would help secure progress and stability in the Arab World and on the African continent and would serve as a model for cooperation between states.

Prospects slim for special Arab summit, diplomats say

Following its peace treaty with Israel.

Any Arab summit called to discuss Jordan's resumption of diplomatic ties with Cairo would be faced with the problem of whether to formally end the Arab boycott of Egypt.

A number of Arab officials, including in Sudan, Egypt's ally, said any such summit needed careful preparation.

In Cairo, the government is maintaining a discreet silence. Arab diplomats in the Egyptian capital said that unless the Arab League opted for majority decisions, it was hard to see how Egypt would be allowed to return to the Arab fold as opposition by radical states made a consensus impossible.

Jordan has long been pressing for majority votes. In Tunis, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said they supported the idea of a special summit but doubted whether it could be held without lengthy

preparations.

PLQ leader Yasser Arafat, who has been discussing with Jordan a common approach to the Middle East problem, angered radical Arabs when he visited Cairo last year.

Inter-Arab differences, and the Iran-Iraq war, prevented the holding of an Arab summit meeting in Riyadh last November. Arab leaders last met in Fez, Morocco, two years ago.

Kuwait's As Siyassa newspaper said Thursday relations with Egypt should be restored quickly but commented that the summit proposal had come at a time when the Arab World situation "is bad, to say the least."

In Khartoum, President Jaafar Numeiri said he was opposed to the holding of an Arab summit which would focus on disputes over the resumption of Egyptian-Jordanian relations, according to Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA).

U.N. chief, Arab group discuss Gulf war

UNITED NATIONS (Petra) — A seven-member Arab committee charged with tackling the Iran-Iraq war met here Thursday night with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

They discussed the developments in efforts for ending the Gulf conflict, but no statement was issued to reveal the outcome of the meeting.

The committee groups representatives of Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia, North Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Palestine, S. Yemen to receive CAEU aid

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) will offer technical help to South Yemen and Palestine in statistics-related affairs, in accordance with an agreement signed here Thursday.

Following the signing by CAEU Secretary General Mahdi Al Obaidi and representatives of both sides, Mr. Obaidi said the agreement reflects his organization's cooperation with Arab states to provide basic instruments for collecting information data and statistics for their development.

The CAEU has contributed towards the development of several statistics departments in Arab states and extended help in particular to the PLO in this field, Mr. Obaidi said.

Earlier CAEU aid in statistics has enabled South Yemen to carry out population census and conduct industrial and agricultural surveys, Mr. Obaidi added.

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.							
JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 17:00 Koran 17:10 Cartoons 17:25 Children Programme 18:20 Local Programme 19:20 Programme Review 19:30 News 20:30 News in Arabic 20:40 Local Programme 21:40 Arabic Series 22:00 Programme Review 22:10 Arabic Play Contd. 23:00 News in Arabic 23:10 Play Contd. FOREIGN CHANNEL 18:00 French Programme 19:30 News in French 20:30 Comedy: Sory 21:00 Saturday Variety Show 22:00 News in English 22:15 Best Seller: Master of the Game — Part I RADIO JORDAN 835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW 07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsweek 08:00 Morning Show 10:00 News Summary 10:05 Morning Show 11:00 News Summary 11:05 Pop Session 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 13:05 Pop Session 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Jordan Weekly 14:30 Music 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instruments 16:30 Old Favorites 17:00 Special Feature 17:30 Music 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Top Twenty 19:00 News 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Good Old Days 20:05 Just a Minute 21:00 News Summary 21:05 Country Music 21:10 News Summary 22:00 Play of the Week 22:05 News Summary 23:00 Classical Concert 23:05 News Headlines		BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz 06:00 Newsweek 06:30 That's That 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Double Act The World Today 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Album Time 09:00 World News 09:25 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 From the Weeklies 09:45 Music 10:00 News Pro- gramme 10:30 World News 10:30 Ref- lections 10:15 Peckley's Choice 10:30 Brain of Britain 10:45 11:00 World News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 People and Politics 12:15 Letter from America 12:30 My Music 13:00 World News 13:30 News About Britain 13:15 About Britain 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Anything Goes 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Major 15:45 That's That 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Saturday Special 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 News Summary 19:05 Sunday Special 19:15 Baker's Half Dozen 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Play of the Week: In Two Minds 21:30 Album Time 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Frontline Concert 22:30 A Well-Governed Stage VOICe OF AMERICA 1260 MW, 7200, 9565, 11740 11925 and 15210 KHz 06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business report; science and medicine; sports reports; editorial; world and U.S. op- inion roundups; documentary analysis; American viewpoints; features 17:00 World 17:10 The Week 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 American viewpoints 18:30 Press Conference USA 19:00 News 19:10 This Week 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:30 Weekend Survey of World News, Cor- respondent's Reports, Music, Cultural Events and Features 21:00 News 21:10 American Viewpoints 21:30 Press Con- ference USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA (Jazz) 23:00 Weekend Survey of World News, Cor- respondent's Reports, Music, Cultural events and Features		TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITION * An exhibition of paintings by leading contemporary French artists at the French Cultural Centre until Oct. 10. * "Iraqi Cultural Week" — at the Palace of Culture at Hussein Youth City. * An exhibition of Lebanese products and fashions opens Thursday at 4.00 p.m. at the Sae Rock Hotel (Oct. 4 - Oct. 7) FILM * An Iraqi film at 7 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267 American Centre - 44371 British Council - 36147-8 French Cultural Centre - 37009 Goethe Institute - 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre - 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777 Heya Arts Centre - 665195 Hussein Youth City - 667181 Y.W.C.A. - 41793 W.M.C.A. - 664251 Amman Municipal Library - 36111 University of Jordan Library 843555 MUSEUMS Folklore Museum: Jewellery and cos- tumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col- lection of paintings, ceramics, and scul- ptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabal 'Luwabdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m.		1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia relat- ing to the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240. Folklore Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169. SERVICE CLUBS Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Hol- iday Inn, 1.30 p.m. Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m. Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261. CHURCHES St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwabdeh, 37440. De la Sable Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541. Anglican Church (Church of the Res- cued) Jabal Amman, 61559. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 171331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 177526. St. Ephrem Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 177151. Amman International Church (Inter- denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeinal, 816354. PRAYER TIMES 06:11 Fajr 06:33 (Sunrise) Duha 11:25 Dhuhra 14:46 'Asr 17:16 Maghreb 18:38 'Isha		AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Air In- formation Department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 5232- 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified. 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EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 775111 Fire, fire, police 199 Blood bank 775121 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 22900/3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 30141 Traffic police 56390-2 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 771125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre - 813813-32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn - 44281-4 Akleh Maternity, J. Amman - 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity 42362 Malhas, J. Amman 36140 Palestine, Shmeinal 664171-4 Shmeinal Hospital 669131 University Hospital 545845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Mushir Hospital 667227-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665252 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164 Al-Mubajir 777101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111 Army, Amn 91611 NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Anwar Musa Al Haj 771020 Dr. Fayer Jallouq 24027 Mishri pharmacy 770910 Grand Arabian pharmacy 74051 Abu Ghazalah pharmacy 20290 Samer pharmacy 38359 Mishri pharmacy 669337 Mishri pharmacy (-) TAXIS: Rainbow taxi 37240 Khashtan taxi 45620 Ambassador taxi 66446 Karakat taxi 666761 Jihad taxi 842664 Nahda taxi 663003 IBED Dr. Adnan Al Naser 2418 Bashir pharmacy 7343 ZARQA: Dr. Issa Abu Judeh (-) Jaber Ibn Hayyan pharmacy (-) GENERAL Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordan 774111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Hotel complaints 664412 Price complaints 661176 Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 18 Repair service 11 MARKET PRICES — Upper/lower price in Jls per kg. Apple (golden) 180/ 150 Apple (local) 200/ 160 Apple (starch) 180/ 150 Banana 280/ 240 Banana (Mukammal) 240/ 210 Beans 450/ 400 Cabbage 120/ 80 Carrot 300/ 250 Cauliflower (white) 140/ 110 Cucumber (large) 200/ 150 Cucumber (small) 350/ 300 Dates 230/ 200 Eggplant (large) 160/ 120 Eggplant (small) 170/ 130 Figs 300/ 250 Garlic 200/ 150 Grapes 250/ 200 Grapefruit 110/ 80 Guavas 250/ 200 Lemon 120/ 90 Mallow 120/ 80 Mallow (large) 100/ 80 Mallow (small) 160/ 120 Onion (dry) 160/ 130 Onions 600/ 550 Orbes 250/ 200 Oranges 280/ 240 Parsley 100/ 100 Parsnips 650/ 600 Peas 550/ 500 Pepper (sweet) 220/ 180 Pepper (hot green) 220/ 180 Peppers 500/ 450 Potatoes 180/ 140 Potatoes 280/ 170 Radishes 100/ 80 Spinach 220/ 180 Sweet Melon 160/ 120 Tomatoes 120/ 80	

اسماء كمال

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Hassan visits General Command

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday paid a visit to the Armed Forces General Command, where he met for a while with Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and discussed with him issues of interest to the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Mahmoud, Urwick review Arab affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — Conditions in the occupied Arab territories and means of extending support to Arab institutions in the area were reviewed Thursday during a meeting between Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud and the British Ambassador in Amman Alan Urwick.

Budget department reviews NRA spending

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Budget Department has discussed the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) budget for the year 1985. The budgeted allocations totalled JD 17,027,000, of which JD 15,734,000 are developmental expenses and JD 1,293,000 are recurrent expenditures. Of the developmental allocations, the amount of JD 15,093,000 has been earmarked for prospecting for oil.

GUVS team leaves for Bulgaria

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) and members from the Jordanian-Bulgarian Friendship Society will leave Amman Saturday on a ten-day visit to Bulgaria. The visit of the four-member delegation is aimed at getting acquainted with Bulgarian factories who employ blind and handicapped persons in order to benefit from this experience and to try to apply the system in Jordan.

Irbid to host tribal issues meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Irbid Governor Turki Al Hindawi has extended invitations to members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament to attend a meeting to be held Tuesday evening in Irbid Governorate. During the meeting, means of remedying tribal issues and other issues of interest to citizens will be discussed.



Jordan Valley Authority President Munther Hadadin (centre) signs an agreement with officials from the Japanese Fund for Overseas Development for implementing the second phase of the southern Jordan Valley irrigation project (Petra photo)

Japanese fund assists in financing JD 55m Jordan Valley water projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) and the Japanese Fund for Overseas Development signed here Thursday an agreement for implementing the second phase of the southern Jordan Valley project.

The project entails drawing water from the Wadi Al Mujib river to the valley through pipelines extending some 73 kilometres, building Al Tannour dam on Wadi Al Hassa Valley to

hold back an estimated 12 million cubic metres of water for irrigation and building an irrigation system to water some 60,000 dunums in the area which lies south of the Dead Sea.

The signing of the agreement marks the end of the feasibility study of the project, and another agreement on extending a Japanese loan to finance the scheme is expected to be signed before the end of the year, according to a

JVA spokesman.

He said that the Japanese government fund will provide JD 24 million, but the whole project is expected to cost JD 55 million. Contacts with other sources are underway to secure the remaining cost, the spokesman added.

The agreement was signed by JVA President Munther Hadadin and the vice-president of the Japanese fund's loans section.

Cerebral Palsy collection successful, Bilbeisi says

AMMAN (J.T.) — A campaign to raise funds for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) launched on Thursday was described as successful by Fakhri Bilbeisi, chairman of the foundation, who said that 500 students toured different districts and residential quarters in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa and Madaba to collect money.

Most of the students were from the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University and secondary schools, he said. We are trying to raise as much money as possible to establish a centre for the treatment and rehabilitation of cerebral palsy children, said Mr. Bilbeisi. At present work is underway for establishing a section at Yarmouk University by the end of the year for the treatment of CP children, Mr. Bilbeisi added.

Public response

Most of the people approached to offer donations did so and sch-

ool children even gave away their pocket money on that day for the cause, he said, which all together resulted in an encouraging public response, he added.

Mr. Bilbeisi said that on Cerebral Palsy Day, which falls on the first Thursday of October every year, his foundation carries out a campaign to help CP children. This year, he said, the students helped the cause by distributing pamphlets and booklets explaining CP to the public. According to Mr. Bilbeisi, between 600 to 1,000 CP cases appear in Jordan every year and funds are needed to help these victims. Mr. Bilbeisi also said that he would like to thank all those who took part in the campaign and the citizens who donated money for the noble cause.

Mr. Bilbeisi told the Jordan Times that although the money has not yet been officially counted, it is estimated that the donations will amount to between JD 22,000 and JD 25,000.

JPMC output increases

AMMAN (Petra) — Phosphate production during the past nine months of this year amounted to 4,658,991 tonnes against 3,352,128 during the same period in 1983, thus representing an increase of 39 per cent, Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) Director General Wasef Azar said Thursday.

In September alone, Mr. Azar said, the three mines produced 546,932 tonnes, an increase of 167,607 tonnes over last year's September production figure.

Industry body studies product specifications

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry has asked all industrial companies and corporations to supply the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism Department of Standardisations and Metrology with specifications in respect of their products.

A memorandum sent by the Amman Chamber of Industry said that each product will be studied separately.

RCC plans to 'adopt' a band for promotion of Arabic music

By Olga Mikhail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) is becoming a busy beehive full of cultural activities. In addition to hosting the permanent Cine Club weekly meetings, ballet teaching, cultural weeks and art exhibitions, the centre is trying to adopt a Jordanian musical band to perform permanently for the centre.

The first band to approach the centre is the newly formed five-member Franco-Arab musical band "the Sevan". According to RCC Deputy Director Hani Snobar, the centre is prepared to adopt any Jordanian group that can prove both its presence and acceptability to the public. "This is the first band that approached the centre, and we are going to test the response of the public on Saturday Oct. 6 when they are going to present a one night performance," Mr. Snobar said.

The "Sevan" is comprised of Vicken Stepanian, the group's main singer, Khasho Demergian, Guitarist, Sako Gamkoshian on drums, Morad Demergian on the organ and Imad Salsa who is a

Energy director returns from Vienna meetings

Jordan played a decisive role during atomic energy conference, Badran says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has called for adopting a firm and decisive stand towards Israel and South Africa, who both pose threats to their neighbouring countries, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism Director of Energy Ibrahim Badran has said.

Dr. Badran was speaking to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra after returning from Vienna where he took part in an eight-day conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) which concluded recently. Dr. Badran also took part in the meetings of the IAEA Governors Council, which Jordan recently joined after being elected as member.

Speaking about the meetings and discussions, Dr. Badran said that they dealt with the Israeli threats to hit nuclear installations in the neighbouring Arab countries, the threats posed to the African continent as a result of developing nuclear energy in South Africa and other subjects relating to technical aid provided for developing

countries, by the IAEA.

Arms race

Dr. Badran also said that the arms race and the great stocks of weapons are capable of destroying the whole world, adding that the international community is unable to put an end to this race. Small countries, which do not have huge technological and military resources feel upset and worried about their future because of direct and indirect threats caused by the neighbouring countries who own huge developed military resources, he added.

Jordan, as well as other countries, taking part in the conference, called for adopting a firm and decisive stand towards Israel

and South Africa. They also sought the international community's cooperation to put an end to such threats.

In his speech at the IAEA meetings, Dr. Badran called for the formation of a working group, comprising representatives from the developing countries. Such a team, he said, will be entrusted with studying the obstacles facing the expansion of international markets for nuclear technology and proposing ideas and alternatives to overcome these difficulties.

Such ideas and alternatives will serve as a basis for a practical programme geared at giving the developing countries the opportunity to utilise nuclear energy in solving the energy problems in their countries, he said.

The use of nuclear technology for medical and agricultural purposes, for preserving food and prospecting for water resources contributes to a large extent in developing a large number of countries.



Members of the Bavarian troupe "Isartaler Blasmusik" take to the streets Thursday to deliver greetings to Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh from the mayor of Munich during the Oktoberfest activities this week.

Musical message from W. Germany

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Pedestrians and drivers passing through the road leading up to the First Circle and to the Wadi Seer street and downtown Amman had the advantage Thursday to watch and listen free of charge to a West German musical troupe from Munich which was strolling down the street to deliver a friendly message from the mayor of Munich to the Mayor of Amman, at the new municipality building.

The visit of the Bavarian troupe, "The Isartaler Blasmusik,"

to Jordan which is within the annual event called "Oktoberfest" organised by the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and this year co-sponsored by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, includes a three-day variety show of German folklore which ends Saturday at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

The 22-member musical troupe which delivered greetings from Mayor of Munich Herr Georg Kronewitter to Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh also received a message from Mr. Rawabdeh to the German mayor as a gesture of friendship between the two cities.

General Manager of the hotel

sponsoring the event said at a press conference that the Oktoberfest is a "festival of friendship, gaiety and togetherness". Mr. Antonius-Mueller Gerbrand said the idea of holding the festival again in Amman was to bring once more to Jordanians, expatriates and overseas visitors a small portion of the famous Munich Oktoberfest. The German festival is being held in Amman for the sixth time.

Attending the ceremonies of exchange of messages at the municipality were the German Ambassador to Jordan Hermann Munz, Ministry of Information Under-Secretary Michel Hamarneh, Mr. Gerbrand and a number of Jordanians.

Ministry expresses concern about forest fires

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture complains that nearly 35,000 trees in Jordan are lost every year through negligence and the irresponsible behaviour of people who cause fires in forests, woods and national parks.

According to Dr. Salem Butros, head of the ministry's agricultural information bureau, trees at present grow on an estimated 500,000 dunums of land, but the remaining 80 million dunums of Jordanian territory is almost desert where nothing grows. This small area that is covered with trees is shrinking fast and the trees are continually being destroyed by fire at a faster pace than the process of planting others, Dr. Butros said.

The encroachment of desert over land, mostly from the east, continues despite all efforts by the Ministry of Agriculture to maintain a green cover on as much land as possible. Dr. Butros added.

The destruction of trees, he said, is to be blamed on people who, despite repeated advice and warnings, continue to make fires while on picnics or outings and who tend to forget to put it out upon leaving the place.

The fires, which have been on the increase lately, Dr. Butros pointed out, have destroyed many of the trees which took strenuous efforts and years of work to make them grow, and if this trend continues Jordan is bound to face very grave consequences in the future.

Negligent picnickers

Dr. Butros said that most of the fires by vacationers occur in the summer when woods are visited by holiday-makers, and the trees and grass are usually dry and easy to catch fire. In 1980, he said, Jordan lost 22,000 trees through fires, but in 1983 the number was 35,000. Of course, he added, if the fires continue, the country will lose more and more trees as long

as people are unaware of the danger to agriculture and do not give due care to trees which help retain water in the ground for crops and form part of Jordan's natural wealth.

Dr. Butros said man has since early history planted trees and tended them with care for their benefit, mainly to agriculture and crops. Trees are a source of food, useful to build ships and homes and to make furniture, and are important to industry he said. In addition, the trees purify the air, prevent soil erosion and keep water in the ground, he added.

It is estimated that forest trees growing on 10 dunums of land can supply 2.5 million tonnes of oxygen, Dr. Butros pointed out. He said according to available statistics one hectare of land grown with pine trees can stop 35 tonnes of desert sand from encroaching over cultivable land, and can reduce by nearly 50 per cent the danger of factory pollution in urban areas.

Sloping land

Without trees, land sloping at an angle of 10 degrees is liable to lose 78 tonnes of soil a year, according to estimates by scientists, but can probably lose a mere 0.004 tonnes a year if trees are grown on it, Dr. Butros said. Jordan's trees, Dr. Butros emphasised, attract tourists, beautify the country and stop the desertification process, in addition to other benefits.

The afforestation department, which is operating under the Ministry of Agriculture, has been intensifying its efforts to grow trees in as wide an area as possible. Present plans drawn up at the department envisage planting three million forest trees in the country annually, in addition to another three million that could be distributed to the public for planting on private land, Dr. Butros said.

In an attempt to prevent this important work from being was-



Popular picnic spots, such as this area near Ajloun, could disappear due to the increasing number of forest fires (J.T. file photo)

ted through reckless actions of irresponsible people. The Ministry of Agriculture has posted forest rangers or guards around national parks and near forest areas to stop people from causing harm to the trees and to report any fires as soon as they are spotted in order to minimise the loss at an early stage. The ministry also imposes fines and refers vandals to the concerned authorities and to courts whenever necessary as a measure to protect the trees, Dr. Butros said.

UNEP report

But the certain knowledge that humans are responsible for most of the problem gives hope that desertification can be halted. A recent report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said that seven years ago

the world's nations agreed to a sweeping plan of action to halt the process of desertification or desertification. UNEP has just completed a two-year assessment which reveals that the global threat posed by desertification has actually increased in severity, the report said.

The report indicated that currently about 35 per cent of the world's landsurface is at risk, and that the livelihoods of the 950 million people who live there are directly threatened. Three quarters of the 45 million square kilometres that make up the world's dryland, which includes sub-humid tropics is already affected, it said. The report warned that the international community must act now if it is to avoid shortages leading to chaos on a scale hitherto unknown.

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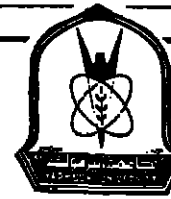
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Peres will discuss Jordan

ISRAELI SOURCES said Thursday that Jordan will be among the four main topics for discussion by Israeli premier Shimon Peres and President Reagan during Peres' forthcoming visit to the United States. The other subjects are the situation in Lebanon, the Egyptian-Israeli relations, and financial and economic aid to Israel.

It is natural that Jordan will be discussed at such a meeting because Peres realizes that Jordan's position is the most difficult to tackle and this position has been urging Israel for so long and impeding Zionist designs in Palestine. This position, reaffirmed by King Hussein to Parliament last Monday, underlines the following facts:

1. That Jordan wishes to negotiate with Israel under the latter's own terms and with the present form of Israeli government;
2. Jordan insists that U.N. resolutions on Palestine be implemented;
3. Jordan cannot give up a single inch of Arab land in Palestine;
4. Jordan still strives to convene an international conference on the Middle East and

5. Jordan will continue to support the steadfastness of the Arab population under Israeli rule.

Of course Jordan will be facing more pressure in the near future to force it to change its stance. But whatever the pressures, Jordan's position will remain the same and its leadership will not budge.

Al Dustour: Stop media campaigns

MOROCCO'S CALL for an urgent Arab summit has become cause for more rifts and divisions and disputes among Arab countries. Even before the envoys sent out by King Hassan II have finished their tours of Arab countries carrying messages to their leaders to attend such a summit, Arab radio stations and other information media started launching campaigns, against one another.

The chance of holding a summit is slipping out of hand and the Arabs are losing an opportunity for patching up their differences and ending their disputes by a meeting of their leaders at the summit.

Nations such as China, the U.S., and the Soviet Union, which have real disagreements on ideological or other subjects have sent their foreign ministers to New York to hold meetings and to try to find solutions for their problems. Yet, the Arabs, who have no real cause for disagreement, continue to attack one another through the media and to refuse to meet to solve their problems. The reaction to the Moroccan call has no doubt exposed clearly the true nature of the confusion and disturbance in relations prevailing in the Arab World.

Sawt Al Shaab: A summit to tackle rifts

JORDAN SUPPORTS the convening of an Arab summit meeting to discuss issues among the Arab nations and problems that are continuously causing rifts among their ranks. Jordan has always urged the Arab states to meet and to discuss their problems and agree on joint action in the face of the common challenges and common enemy. But Jordan sees in a summit to discuss a side issue, that of restoration of ties with Egypt, another tool for deepening rifts among Arab countries and a consecration of disagreements and divisions of Arab ranks.

A summit to discuss only one issue will be at the expense of the central Palestinian problem and the other issues that should get priority in political affairs. Such a summit would not succeed if the leaders did not have a real concept of solidarity and common goals. We do not see any point in holding such a summit if it is only to tackle Jordan's decision to restore relations with Egypt leaving the Iran-Iraq war, the Lebanese situation and the Palestinian problem untouched. Such a summit would never succeed since a number of states intend to take part only to disrupt joint Arab action and cause more rifts among Arab countries.

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Egypt should be aware

THE REJECTION by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak of the invitation by Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres to hold a bilateral summit is a clear indication that Egyptian-Israeli relations have entered a new stage of deterioration.

The Egyptian leadership has rejected this call because it has become aware that the proposed summit between Israel and Egypt is geared at poisoning Egyptian-Arab relations and preventing the restoration by Arabs of normal relations with Egypt.

The Egyptian leadership has made it clear to the Israeli government that such a summit will be to no avail if it is not preceded by a change in the Israeli position towards recognition of Palestinian rights and an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and Gaza.

Since Israel is still insisting on its stand and intransigence and as there is no indication of any change in the Israeli stand, these signs strengthen the conviction that the Israeli-Egyptian relations will face further deterioration and jeopardy.

Being aware of this result, Peres has listed the Egyptian-Israeli relations on the agenda of his forthcoming talks with President Reagan of the United States. Peres will spare no effort in urging the U.S. administration to convince Egypt to adopt a more flexible stand and to abandon its conditions for its future relations with Israel.

Meanwhile the U.S. administration's response to the Israeli demand seems to be in harmony with the strategic cooperation agreement between the U.S. and Israel. In case such a step succeeds, it will be exploited in the forthcoming U.S. elections in the interest of President Reagan.

However, Cairo knows well the dimensions of such a step and is aware that accepting an American mediation in this respect will not only offend Egypt but also make it liable to be incorporated into the American umbrella.

We pin great hopes that Arab solidarity be strengthened and that Egypt will continue to counter the Israeli-U.S. moves which aim at shackling Egypt and paralyzing its role on the Arab arena.

Sawt Al Shaab: National unity, continued resistance

THE RECENT statements by Israeli Chief of Staff Moshe Levi and former Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens clearly indicate that the count down for the Israeli departure from South Lebanon has really started.

The brave Lebanese resistance in South Lebanon and the high number of casualties the Israelis are sustaining are behind this radical change in the Israeli position in Lebanon.

The statements by the Shi'ite movement's leader Nabih Berri in New York reiterates the start of indirect talks through the United States, within the framework of a preliminary U.S. plan including positive steps, at the head of which a total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.

The most important development in this regard, as announced by Israel's chief of staff is that Israel is ready to exchange its military presence in South Lebanon for stationing International Forces in South Lebanon. This implies that Israel implicitly recognises for the first time the true agreement between it and Lebanon.

Unless Lebanon is in a good internal position, and unless circumstances are mature, Lebanon will not be able to overcome this stage easily. Lebanese national unity and strong Lebanese resistance in the South are the only ways for guaranteeing sovereignty and unity of Lebanon.

Unita-holics need remedy

By Musa Keilani

UNITA-HOLICS, just like alcoholics and workaholics, do suffer from certain emotional disorders which require medical attention and care. In the case of unita-holics, extra care and treatment should be accorded to them, because the unita obsession which haunts them can consequently lead to a lot of political negativism.

What motivated me to write now is Egypt's Peoples' Assembly resolution on the first of October 1984 to abrogate and cancel the Libyan-Syrian-Egyptian federation, which was promulgated in 1971, due to its failure to achieve unitarian coordination for the last thirteen years.

The Egyptian assembly, on Oct. 1, 1984, exposed the pernicious nature of Col. Qadhafi's unitaholicism, which entailed many tragic incidents to our area.

As a unita-holic, haunted

and obsessed by the idea of Arab unity, he managed to project the worst image of Arab unity, which had been the noblest idea for the realisation of which a lot of Arab lives were sacrificed before being trivialised, commercialised to suit Quixotic dreams of grandeur and to suit the unitaholic's concept of megalomania.

The Egyptian People's Assembly decision specified the corruptive impact of Col. Qadhafi's unita-holic perspective when it quoted:

"The Libyan federation treaty which Morocco had not had a spontaneous pan-Arab motive but was purely a hasty reaction to the anger both countries felt to the Tunisian-Algerian-Mauritanian alliance. King Hassan hoped to stop Libyan support for 'Al-Shahrawi' group which was the main armed internal opposition to King Hassan II, as

well as to stop Libya's support for the Polisario in Western Sahara struggle which was costing Moroccan coffers nearly one million dollars a day.

As for Col. Qadhafi's motives, he was still having nightmares due to the attack at Azziah barracks and his headquarters on May 8, 1984, by the 'Islamic Liberation Front' and the 'Islamic Vanguard Group'. Consequently, he made his trip to Morocco only 22 days after the attack, that is on June 30, 1984, to offer Moroccans, Libyan oil at reduced prices and to welcome thousands of unemployed Moroccan labourers... just as a safeguard against being isolated.

This Moroccan-Libyan unity is bound to meet the same fate of earlier Libyan-inspired unities. But with the single outcome: further damage to the ideal image of Arab unity, with all the romanticism, patriotism

and idealism that were attached to it in the minds of thousands of Arab youth since the 1950s and 1960s.

The distorted concept and Quixotic ideals that Libyan unities exemplified can be traced in the following:

1969- The Tripoli charter for Arab integration, comprising Egypt, Libya and Sudan.

April, 1971- Union of Egypt-Libya and Syria, which was, abrogated this week by Egypt's People's Assembly.

June, 1971- Libya-Malta merger unity.

August, 1972- Egypt-Libya integrationist unity.

1974- Tunis-Libya integrationist unity.

1975- Algeria-Libya comprehensive unity.

1980- Syria-Libya union.

1981- Chad-Libya int-

egrationist unity.

1984- Libya-Morocco Arab-African Union.

In spite of all his 'unities' Col. Qadhafi, with his mercurious character resorted and failed to impose his hegemony on all the countries he claimed to have united with. When his plans were thwarted, he resorted to an attempted coup d'etat and sabotage. Fourteen attempts were made against Cairo, ranging from assassination attempts to sabotage of government buildings to mobilisation of troops on the border, which escalated to bombing raids against terrorist bases at Jajjiboub on the border and a four day war.

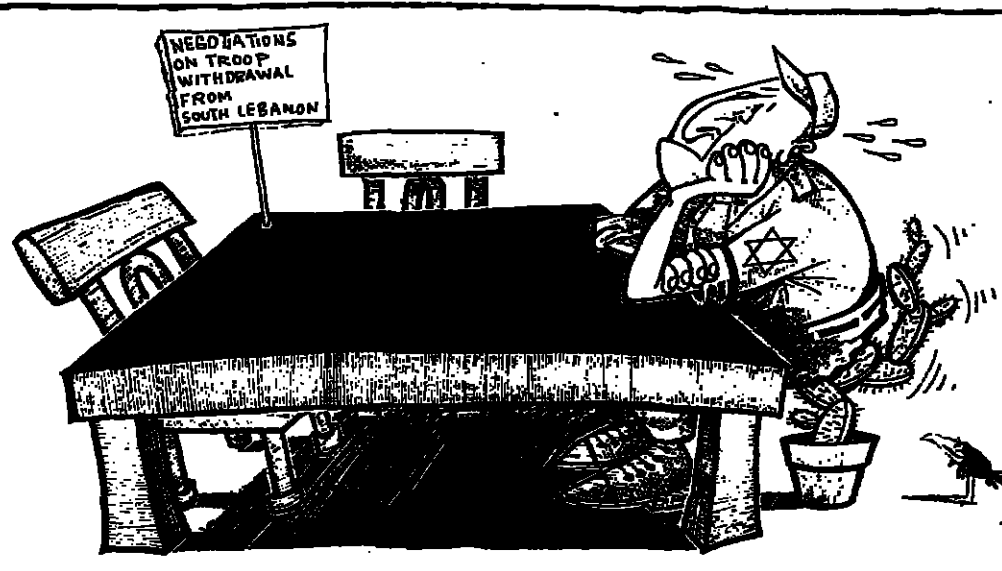
Moreover, Libyan saboteurs in Jan. 1984 blew up oil pipelines between Tunis and Algeria, with the unity charter signed in 1974 still intact. In 1980, Libya sponsored an insurrection against President

Bourghiba of Tunisia.

The Libyan-Sudan merger unity in 1970 resulted in a coup attempt by Al Sadiq Al Mahdi of Al Ansar. For this purpose 2,000 Sudanese were trained by Libya as admitted to the writer by Sadiq Al Mahdi himself in Khartoum.

No need to talk about Qadhafi's visits to Jordan, and the smooth talk he expressed. A talk which was followed by shocking signs of intrigue, cunning and deception.

The valuable rose bud of Arab unity is being stabbed by a unita-holic. To commercialise an ideal is a big sin, but to prove to young Arab generations that so often attempts at Arab unity proved to be not only a failure, but a camouflage for attaining Quixotic designs is both, frustrating, depressive and can be equated with treason.



Two years on, Kohl's team still limps

By Douglas Hamilton
 Reuter

BONN — Two years after replacing West Germany's left-of-centre alliance, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's conservative coalition is still unsettled and top-level changes are predicted before key electoral tests next spring.

Mr. Kohl, who began his third year in office Monday, has described himself as "firmly committed to the legacy of Konrad Adenauer" and has emulated West Germany's longest serving chancellor in his loyalty to the Western alliance.

He celebrated his first anniversary in power amid big protests against NATO plans to deploy new U.S. nuclear missiles on German soil, but faced them down and kept the commitment.

In the economic field, inflation at 1.6 per cent is at its lowest in 16 years, growth has been restored and Employment Minister Norbert Blum says he expects unemployment to fall below two million next year for the first time in two years. The current figure is 2.2 million, 8.9 per cent of the labour force.

Nevertheless, Mr. Kohl today has a low popularity rating, due mainly to blunders and internal strife in his unruly coalition.

"When will this government finally learn to govern?" asked the influential and independent Liberal weekly Die Zeit. "The unease is palpable... Kohl must make changes in his organisation and his team."

Instead of the "spirit of renewal" heralded when Mr. Kohl replaced Social Democrat Helmut Schmidt in 1982, his coalition has bucked and swerved through the past year, reversing policy and pattering over the cracks.

Mr. Schmidt is still rated easily

the most popular politician in the country, even though he has retired, according to opinion polls. This may have more to do with nostalgia for his commanding intelligence and statesmanlike presence than with a true desire for his return.

But political analysts say that while Mr. Kohl's more easygoing, fatherly image may suit West Germany's desire to relax after years of engagement under Mr. Schmidt, his "hands-off" approach to the squabbling coalition exceeds what is politically prudent.

Most reflect Die Zeit's view that change at the top is imperative. With major electoral tests due next March in West Berlin and the Saarland, and next May in North Rhine Westphalia, diplomats also expect Kohl to reshape his team.

"We think the chances of a reshuffle are very good... say in March or April," one diplomat said.

But Mr. Kohl's room for manoeuvre is tightly limited and Bonn's delicate coalition balance makes it unlikely that there can be changes radical enough to remove all tension in the alliance.

"We don't see him unravelling the whole package," the diplomat said. "We don't expect enormous changes."

What diplomats and commentators do expect is a firming of policy coordination in the cabinet and the chancellor's own team of aides, and replacement of less effective ministers.

The aim would be to show Mr. Kohl confidently in control of his lieutenants and to stifle the bickering in coalition ranks.

The coalition's turmoil is rooted in a struggle for ascendancy between the rightwing Christian Social Union (CSU) and the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP), the tiny

party which gave Mr. Kohl his majority and now clings grimly to its share of power.

While the CSU has never formally recognised it, the 1982 coalition pact rests on Mr. Kohl's agreement to let the FDP keep the economics and foreign affairs portfolios it held for most of its 13-year alliance with the leftwing Social Democrats (SPD).

The arrangement has fuelled rightwing complaints that the Liberals have too much power and do not reflect Bonn's new conservative majority, and this chafing is likely to continue.

Yet if his goal is to emulate Mr. Adenauer by restoring the Christian Democrats as West Germany's natural party of government, Mr. Kohl must seek a conservative majority in 1987, and it may be within sight.

Only an outright majority can relieve Mr. Kohl of the growing encumbrance of ties to the FDP, and it may be within sight.

The SPD has stagnated in the polls since its March 1983 election defeat and seems unlikely to overtake the conservatives before 1987. The threat of a leftwing coalition between SPD and Greens is also distant.

But its mutinies have rebounded on the FDP and Mr. Kohl has been drawn steadily into the crossfire by newspaper headlines calling for disciplinary action by

the "do-nothing" chancellor.

One diplomat said: "There are now doubts about his ability to deal with sensitive issues. Mr. Kohl needs to bring in new blood to answer charges that his team suffers from lack of concept."

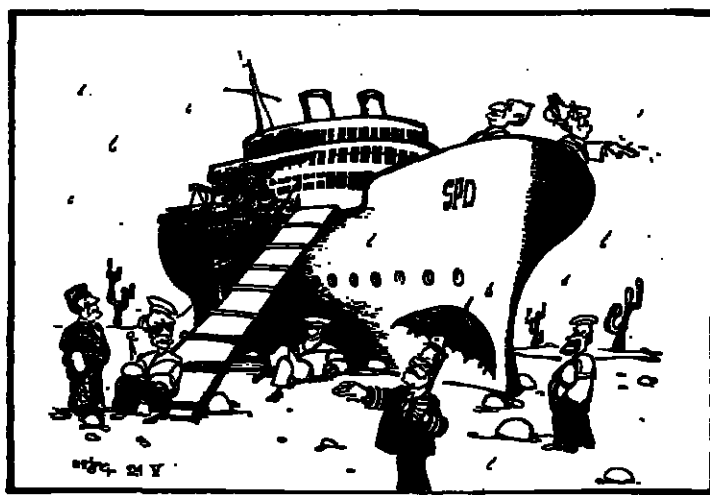
Mr. Kohl's relaxed style of leadership has allowed ministers, their juniors and aides to carry on sniping at cabinet rivals, perpetuating a chronic "crisis" atmosphere which could drain energy from his alliance as it rallies for state elections.

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Party defection common in Indian politics

By Tina Chou
 Associated Press

NEW DELHI — They call it "aya Ram gaya Ram" — Ram comes and Ram goes — to describe the way Indian politicians defect from party to party with impunity.

The game of "Ram," a common Indian first name, recently created a national uproar in the world's largest democracy, where defection is a euphemism for political horse-trading and where politicians change parties the way many people change clothes.

The phenomenon of political defections is denounced by all of India's more than a dozen national parties but is overtly or covertly encouraged by all except the Communists, who give more importance to ideology.

The problem once again is being debated in the wake of the Aug. 16 dismissal of a popular opposition politician by Prime Min-

ister Indira Gandhi's government. N.T. Rama Rao, famous for playing Hindu Gods in movies, was sacked as chief minister of southern Andhra Pradesh state on grounds he had lost legislative majority in the 295-seat assembly following defections by 56 loyalists.

In India, a state's chief minister is elected and his party must have a majority in the state assembly in order to remain in office.

The episode ended in one month, with its leading star restored to his former position and later proving his majority in the legislature. But it's not the end of the drama of political defections.

"Indian legislators are notorious for switching party loyalties without reference to those who elected them," said Arun Shourie, a noted political commentator. "They do so not because of conscience or high principle, but for

the lure of money and power."

Charges of bribery figured prominently and were reported widely in the Indian press in opposition accusation against Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party during the latest chapter of defections.

Her party "is spending enormous sums of money to engineer defections to pull down perfectly stable governments," charged Rama Rao. He claimed her forces offered as much as 150,000 U.S. dollars for each defection.

Most of the 148 state legislators of his Telugu Desam Party are either peasants or school teachers who earn only about \$100 a month.

To prevent them from being bribed or even tempted, Rama Rao ordered the lawmakers to sleep and eat together in his cinema studio in Hyderabad, the state's capital. He even sent them to a hilltop hotel in Mysore city of neighbouring Karnataka, another

opposition-ruled state, where their movement was restricted.

Rama Rao claimed Mrs. Gandhi's forces tried to kidnap his legislators or bribe their families, but the prime minister's supporters denied the charges, accusing him of holding the lawmakers captive to cut off their outside contact.

Both Mrs. Gandhi's party and the opposition accused each other of engineering defections.

"Whoever started the defections," commented the independent Indian Express newspaper, "Mrs. Gandhi is the greatest current beneficiary and practitioner of this sordid art."

Mrs. Gandhi's party pulled off a successful political coup last June in northern Kashmir state, where former chief minister Farooq Abdullah was ousted after being reduced to minority rule by the defection of 15 legislators, who allegedly were bribed.

Tamil extremists force the pace

John Elliott talks to the wester of Tamil exile groups, based in Madras, who plan to carve out a homeland for their people in Sri Lanka. Their rejection of all peace initiatives is contributing to the mounting violence on the island.

MADRAS — When a landmine kills troops in northern Sri Lanka and a fresh round of retaliatory violence breaks out, extremists in Madras chalk up another victory in their campaign of terror aimed at achieving independence for the island's Tamil minority.

Madras has become the operations centre for guerrilla and other extremist groups during the past year. They live here and publish propaganda, including magazines, thanks to a tolerant Indian government which does not want to upset Tamils in southern India.

The extremists — or freedom fighters as they prefer to be called — say they are not interested in an amnesty and possible talks on a peaceful solution recently offered by Mr. J. Jeyaretnam, Sri Lanka's President. Informal approaches through religious organisations have not been taken up.

"Our aim is to throw the army out of the Tamil areas and establish an Eelam (Tamil independent) state," says Mr. A.S. Balasingham, spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, usually known as the Tamil Tigers, and the most active guerrilla group.

They were not interested in discussing the sort of regional or federal solutions talked about in the Sri Lankan government's round-table conference.

"There is no point in such discussions while the present government, opposition leaders and Buddhist monks are in power," says Mr. Balasingham, listing the three groups which directly or indirectly control public policy on the island.

Main roads used by the army in the Tamil areas, mostly in the northern Jaffna peninsula, have been mined to blow up army convoys. Apart from occasional jailbreaks and attacks on police stations, that is the main tactic at present. It claimed nine soldiers' lives this month, provoking the retaliatory killing of civilian bus passengers.

The next phase, according to Mr. Balasingham, will involve more direct confrontation with the army, including attacks on army camps in Tamil areas and, possibly, attacks on economic targets in the other southern areas. That might start in two to three months' time, depending on the internal Sri Lankan situation and the continued tolerance of the Indian government. The Indian government is under considerable pressure internationally to close down guerrilla training camps in and around Madras, which the extremists, however, deny exist.

There are five main groups which have set up in Madras since the major violence in Colombo and Jaffna 14 months ago.

1 — The Tamil Tigers, formed in 1972 when a change in the constitution of Sri Lanka led a younger generation to abandon the non-violent campaign for regional autonomy followed by their fathers. Its leader is Mr. V. Prabhakaran, 30, who lives in Madras.

Mr. Balasingham agrees that violence was not condoned by the Tamil population 12 years ago but argues, with some justification, that it is rapidly gaining increasing support now that troops are attacking civilians, homes and shops.

Catholic priests, who have a sizeable congregation on the island, are involved, and Bishop Theophippilla of Jaffna is accused by the government of having links with the guerrillas. Father Sin-narasa, a priest who escaped from

prison last year and is now in Madras, defends the violence. He says that when he addresses young priests in Indian seminaries in Pune, near Bombay, as well as in Madras, he has "no difficulty in persuading them of the need for our methods, even if the Vatican disagrees."

And what does God think? "God will expect me to lead the people to a just society and we have to take up arms to defend our people."

2 — Peoples Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam: A breakaway from the Tigers, it is led by Mr. Uma Maheswaran, 37, who fell out with Mr. Prabhakaran two years ago over tactics. Along with the rest of the groups, it does not believe in the Tigers' hit-and-run guerrilla activities, mainly because civilians get killed in reprisals, but talks of an armed campaign in the future.

3 — Eelam Peoples Revolutionary Liberation Front: An ideologically-based Marxist-Leninist party which would want to help the Sinhalese change their society in the south once Eelam was established for the Tamils. It was responsible for kidnapping two U.S. aid workers in the north earlier this year, having accused them of being CIA agents.

4 — Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students: It has a similar outlook to the last group, with which it shares a belief that a democratic government could not work in what it regards as a feudal society. (The other groups say they would want a democratic parliamentary system in which Marxists could stand in elections.)

5 — Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation: A large but not very active group whose leaders were killed in prison in July last year.

There are many splinter factions of these groups. One is the Tamil Eelam Army, which has little organisational base, but is believed to have been responsible for last month's bomb blast at Madras airport.

Also operating in Madras is a civil rights group called Proteg (Protection of Tamils of Eelam from Genocide). Its activists include lawyers and economists and many other professional people.

It called recently for India to invade Sri Lanka to protect the Tamils in all parts of the island from attacks by troops. The main groups listed above do not want India to invade, saying it is their job to "liberate the Tamils and establish Eelam."

The professional people argue that a fully independent Tamil state would be economically viable because they want it to include a 20- to 40-mile strip down two-thirds of the eastern coast of the island as well as the northern areas.

The professional people know they sound like impractical dreamers. But, spearheaded by the Tamil Tigers' guerrilla activities, their views cannot be ignored because it is the guerrillas who, up to now, are dictating the pace of the current crisis, not the Sri Lankan government and those at round-table talks in Colombo.

And all the groups believe they are winning the psychological war when, as has happened this month, they hear the Colombo government announce it is switching development funds from the Tamil areas to defence spending and is postponing the ceremonial opening of the giant Mahaweli irrigation scheme's Victoria Dam. — Financial Times news feature.

What is in U.S. election for the 'Third World'?

Not that the "Third World" is in any way an issue in the current U.S. election campaign, but the policies and platforms of the two candidates could have profound effects on the economies of developing nations over the next four years.

By Jim Berger

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nothing succeeds like a U.S. presidential election in showing the "Third World" how small a role it plays in the consciousness of U.S. politicians and of the U.S. people.

Neither Republican President Ronald Reagan nor Democratic challenger Walter Mondale has so far included in his campaign speeches more than a throw-away line about the problems of developing nations.

Admittedly, foreign relations issues, except those that have recently made front-page headlines, traditionally get little attention from presidential candidates. What a candidate does not need in the midst of a heated race are strong positions on peoples who do not vote in the election.

As for U.S. relations with developing nations, the candidates do not like to risk stirring up deep-rooted feelings in the U.S. populace against foreign "give-away programmes."

"Third World" issues do get some attention when the parties hammer out their "campaign platforms" — the articles of faith

meant to keep the parties united through the campaign. But this attention often comes from the extremes of each party, which see the so-called "foreign policy planks" of the platform as a forum in which they can make their views known and have them accepted by the overall party.

Losing Democratic candidate Reverend Jesse Jackson worked hard at the San Francisco convention to gain acceptance of planks addressing the issues affecting developing countries. A final platform included references, albeit vague, to a "set of new initiatives for 'Third World' nations in general and Africa in particular." Except to mention that hunger, drought and famine have brought suffering to millions in Africa, the platform remains silent on any plans for the "new initiatives."

On the Republican side, it was party conservatives who most influenced the foreign policy planks. The Republicans chose conservative New York member of the House of Representatives Jack Kemp, a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee outspoken on limiting U.S. foreign aid spending, to present that part of the platform at

the Dallas convention.

Much in the spirit of Kemp's views, the Republicans pressed for stronger control over its foreign relations, and pledged to reduce U.S. support for international organisations — including United Nations bodies — whose economic and political outlooks do not mesh with current U.S. policy.

"We have changed the Carter-Mondale policy of channelling increasing proportions of U.S. assistance through multinational institutions beyond our control," the Republican platform stated. "We strongly support President Reagan's decision not to increase funding for the International Development Association (the 'soft-loan' arm of the World Bank) because of its predilection for nations with state-dominated economic systems."

What the United States does domestically, especially in the economic arena, can have a tremendous impact on developing countries. Issue experts on both campaigns appreciate that fact.

By far the top issue perceived by both candidates is getting control over burgeoning federal deficit. That, according to many involved in both campaigns, will determine the outcome of the Nov. 6 vote.

In a slight deviation from the party platform, President Reagan stands firm against raising taxes to help pay for the rapidly growing

deficit burden. Revenues can be raised by reduced federal spending, he insists. Former Vice-President Mondale maintains that Americans will accept tax increases if they will help sustain an economic recovery.

Both are explicit that new revenues from whatever source will go towards alleviating the federal deficit. Neither candidate is making promises of increased domestic social welfare spending, much less for new capital for the world multinational development agencies.

While language in the Republican platform indicates outright hostility for certain international development organisations, the best Mondale economic experts can promise is more "sympathy" for those agencies.

Setting the United States straight economically will have direct benefits for developing countries, primarily in the area of greater economic growth, experts in both parties agree. For the Mondale team, a reduced federal deficit will lead to lower interest rates and a subsequent increase in international trading activities.

Before the grim economic recession of the late 1970s, the "Third World" saw prospects for economic growth through trade with and investment from the industrialised "North." Lower interest rates will help U.S. companies compete for those markets

again, stimulating a more balanced two-way stream of trade. The Democratic platform advocates direct intervention in the international exchange markets as a direct method to weaken the dollar.

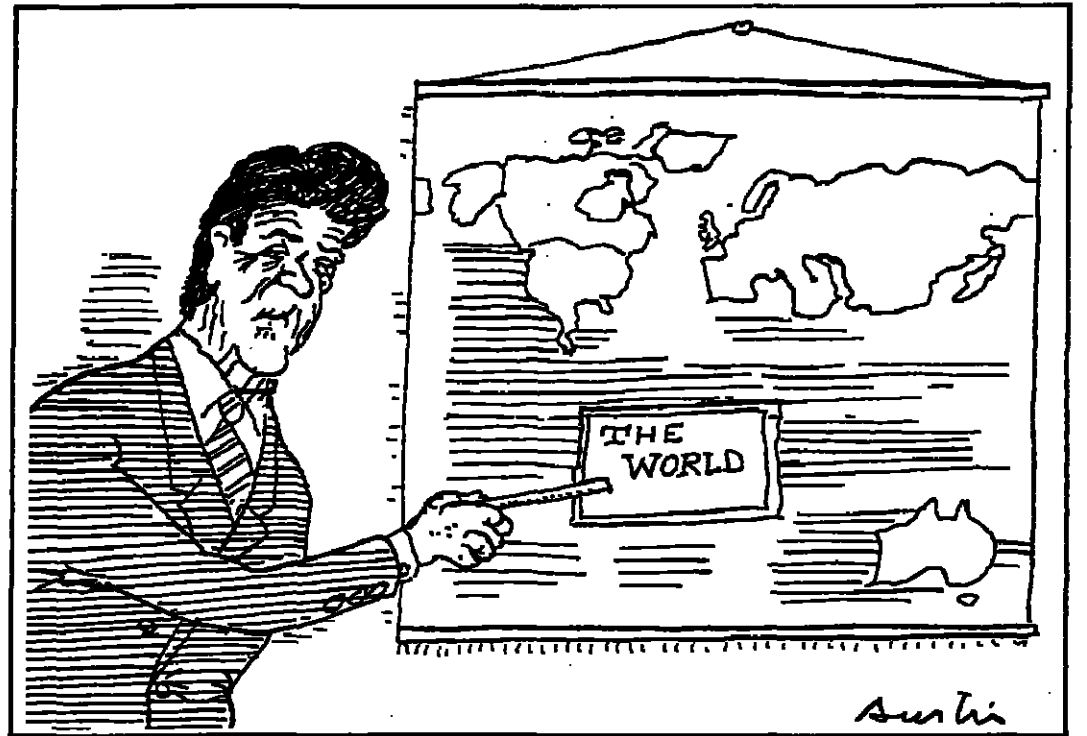
Republican policy makers have held to a more stringent view of "free market" economics, suggesting intervention only in dire economic circumstances.

While the strong dollar abroad has been a curse to U.S. exporters, slowing their penetration in developing country markets, it has been a boost to some "Third World" nations. In the past two years, imports from developing countries into the U.S. have climbed to record levels while U.S. exports continued to fall.

That is a tough political situation for any government to sustain very long, administration officials admit. Added to the effects of a strong dollar is the inability of developing countries to pay hard cash or gain adequate credit to continue importing from the United States.

The Republican platform puts pressure on developing countries to abide by trading rules practised by the United States or bear the consequences. It dismisses the contention of many governments that the poorest countries should be spared the rigid trading rules.

Rapidly increasing imports have led to pressures for pro-



tection which are so strong that even doctrinaire free traders like Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, who has a strong international business background, and U.S. Trade Representative William E. Brock are finding it increasingly hard to resist.

Some Mondale campaign advisors, however, deny that their candidate's administration would be protectionist. They see a stronger U.S. economy and a cheaper dollar meaning that more imports into the United States will be processed into more exports. This would reduce political pressure for protectionism, while assuring a more stable long-range trading regime.

How developing countries will be treated under the next administration, whether a "President Mondale" or a "President Reagan" unencumbered by pressures for re-election, will be determined more by foreign policy specialists selected sometime between election day and inauguration day than by speeches made in the current campaign — Earlsan feature.

Matador's death reveals lasting appeal of bullfighting

By Judith Matloff

Reuter

MADRID — An outpouring of emotion and national mourning for the death of a top matador in a provincial ring has dramatically underlined the powerful and enduring grip bullfighting exerts on Spain.

The fatal goring of Francisco Rivera on Sept. 26 in the remote southern Andalusian town of Pozoblanco had all the ingredients that feed this unique Spanish passion: a strange quirk of fate, spectacular bloodletting and the bravery that makes legend.

"Paquirri", as he was known to his fans, was fighting his last bull of the season in a ring with only the minimum medical facilities when an imprecise pass put him in the

beast's path.

After being lifted in the air like a rag doll, and probably knowing that his life was in danger, the handsome 36-year-old matador told doctors to keep calm while he explained his wounds in front of a television camera.

He bled to death on his way to the nearest modern hospital in Cordoba, some 90 kilometres away.

His death set off a wave of emotion. Tens of thousands of fans took to the streets of Seville to touch his coffin, his photograph monopolised front pages for days and the film footage of his last fight became a hot commodity.

"It's no surprise Spaniards reacted as they did," said Bill Lyon, the U.S.-born bullfighting critic for Spain's top daily El Pais. "Bul-

fighting is in the fabric of Spanish culture."

Impresarios report packed rings and hefty profits, specialised publications do a brisk trade and top fighters become celebrities and millionaires.

An estimate of 8,000 to 10,000 bulls killed in the seven-month season now ending indicates the extent of the bullfighting circuit, which ranges from the top "plazas" (rings) in Madrid, Seville and Barcelona to small-town makeshift arenas.

Essayist and publisher Manuel Arroyo Stevens, an expert in the art, said bullfighting was deeply ingrained in the national psyche and its jargon coloured everyday speech.

He also pointed at the continuing love affair between bul-

fighters and Spanish artists and intellectuals.

Painters such as Goya and Picasso have immortalised the poise of the matador who first assesses the bull while assistants tease it with pink capes, the horsemanship of "Picadores" who jab at the bull with spears and the final dance where the red cape coaxes the beast into the angle needed to drive the sword through its spinal cord.

But 20-year-old Madrid bullfighter Lucio Sandin said the appeal that earned top matadors up to \$8,000 for each of the season's 70 fights was far more basic. "People like danger and death," he said.

Mr. Lyon said the public shock over Mr. Paquirri's death was probably greater than it would

have been for another fighter.

"Paquirri was more popular and more of a celebrity than most," he said, explaining that the dashing bullfighter loved being in the limelight and frequently figured in gossip columns because of his marriage to a famous singer.

Mr. Paquirri's death also set off shockwaves because it seemed inconceivable that someone of his technical ability would be gored by a small bull, he added.

However, Arroyo Stevens said the reaction was so strong because deaths in the ring are rare — only five major bullfighters have been killed over the past 40 years — and because Mr. Paquirri put up a brave front in his final moments.

He noted "... there is more dramatic heroism in dying in the ring than from a cold in bed."

Prince fed up with Monaco image, press photographers

By Gavin Bell

Reuter

PARIS — His Serene Highness Prince Albert Alexandre Louis Pierre, Marquis des Baux, heir to the throne of Monaco, is fed up.

The popular image of the Mediterranean principality as a playground of the rich and famous, and the incessant intrusion of press photographers are sources of deep concern to ruling Prince Rainier's only son.

Shy by nature and normally reticent about his private life, the 26-year-old prince has shown a flash of anger in a rare interview with a French magazine published this weekend.

"This image of Monaco not only disturbs me, it irritates me deeply," he told France-Soir magazine.

"Certainly the principality attracts wealthy people who find comfort and security here. But Monaco, thank God, is not just a casino, Rolls-Royces, jewels and caviar."

Prince Albert cited healthy industrial activity, an expanding banking sector, conference and tourism facilities in great demand and an array of top-level artistic and cultural activities.

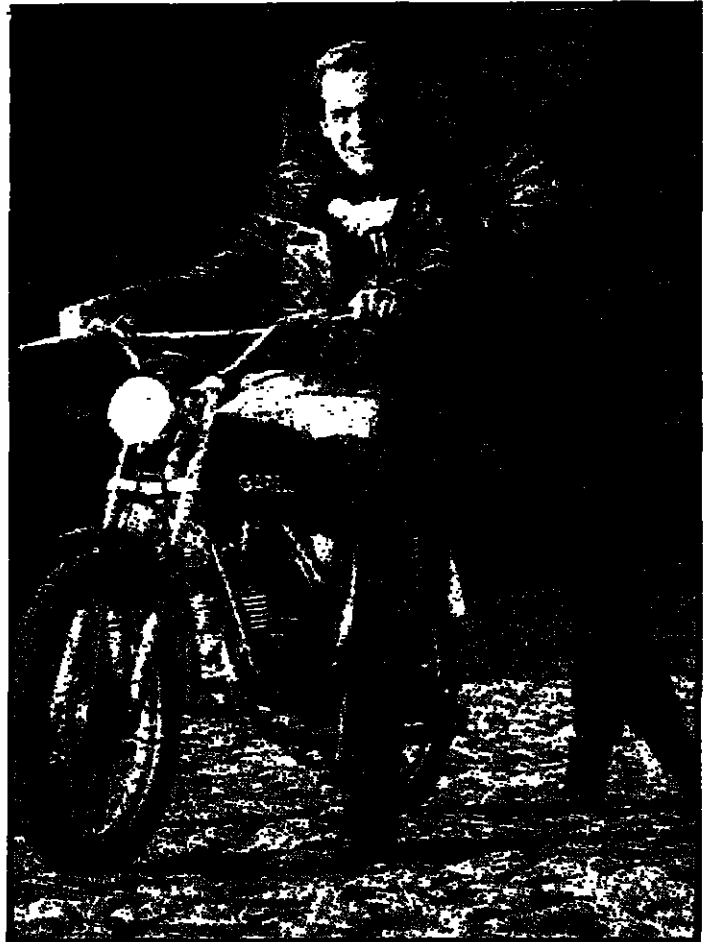
"We are doing our utmost to change this false picture of luxury and wealth because we can project a more positive image," he said.

"We have shown we are a united and prosperous community, a country which has succeeded economically and politically. If tomorrow we can contribute, no matter how modestly, to international rapprochement we will do so."

"We have never been and will never be a fairyland," the prince said.

On harassment by the "paparazzi" of the press, the prince had equally forthright views.

"I think the press has already



Prince Albert bear-gugged by his sister Stephanie

written too much about us... if I was the public, I would be fed up reading about the Monaco royal family every week.

"It disturbs and annoys me... this perpetual influx of photographers is unbearable. There should be a reasonable middle course, but it must be found soon or the situation will become serious," he said.

Much of the unwelcome media attention has focussed on the private life of his twice-married elder sister Princess Caroline and on the escorts of his younger sister Princess Stephanie.

The bachelor Prince, however, professed conservative views on love and marriage.

"For me, love is inseparable from marriage. Is not marriage the celebration, the confirmation, of the union of two people who love each other? I cannot conceive of marriage otherwise," he said.

Medical bomb lurks in U.S. blood banks

By Jonathan Sharp

Reuter

SAN FRANCISCO — The killer disease "AIDS" which has so far afflicted mainly homosexual men and intravenous drug users, has left a lethal time bomb in blood banks, according to medical officials.

This month two people in the San Francisco area died from "AIDS" — Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome — after having transfusions of blood or blood products found afterwards to have been donated by people afflicted by the disease.

Only one other person, a baby, is known to have died in this area from the same cause.

Mary Johnstone, a housewife with three grown children, was one of this month's victims.

During a heart operation in 1982 she was transfused with blood, some of it drawn from the veins of a man later diagnosed as having "AIDS."

Mrs. Johnstone, who found out that she herself had caught "AIDS" only when she leafed through her medical file in hospital, died on Sept. 5.

Since "AIDS" was first identified in 1981, about three quarters of its more than 6,000 victims have been male homosexuals, who contract the disease through sexual contact.

Non-homosexuals thought they were safe from the disease, which breaks down the body's mechanism that fights infections and usually leads to death, sometimes from exotic illnesses.

But the recent deaths are a chilling reminder that the disease can reach out to anyone through the medium of supposedly life-saving blood transfusions.

The topic has aroused particular concern in San Francisco, where an estimated 20 per cent of the adult population is homosexual, and the number of "AIDS" cases is far higher than the national average.

The news of Mrs. Johnstone's

death followed reports that the number of "AIDS" sufferers here was growing, with victims dying at the rate of nearly one a day.

The problem of "AIDS"-tainted blood is compounded by the fact that the disease has an incubation period of several years. This means a donor may give blood and have it accepted by a blood bank, without showing symptoms of having "AIDS" until years later.

The focus of criticism here has been the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, which supplied the blood to Mrs. Johnstone.

Its scientific director, Dr. Herbert Perkins, while not trying to belittle the death, said the risk of catching "AIDS" from "bad" blood was extremely low, and likely to become lower as more became known about the disease's mysteries.

Charles Fallis, a spokesman for the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, said there have been 82 cases of "AIDS" in the United States contracted as a result of

blood transfusions.

This was out of a total of 6,033 cases, of whom 45 per cent have died.

Dr. Perkins told Reuters that the Irwin Blood Bank had discovered that since 1979 it had received blood from 21 donors who had caught "AIDS."

This blood had been given to 107 patients, of whom two — one of them Mrs. Johnstone — had developed "AIDS."

The others had showed no signs of "AIDS" Dr. Perkins added. He said a bigger danger than catching "AIDS" from blood transfusions was refusing blood because of fear of the disease.

Because of this fear, the Irwin Bank is now taking much stricter precautions than other American banks over the blood it receives and uses for transfusions, Dr. Perkins said.

But because so much has still to be learned about the disease, nowhere in the world is there a foolproof system for vetting blood.

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Doctor blames boxing for Ali's health disorder

CHICAGO (R) — Muhammad Ali's doctor said Thursday the former world heavyweight boxing champion's physical disorder was probably caused by the punches he absorbed in the ring.

"It seems to me that repetitive trauma to the head from boxing is a very reasonable explanation for the cause of Ali's Parkinsonism," said Stanley Fahn, of New York, in an article in this week's edition of American Medical News, a newspaper published by the American Medical Association (AMA).

Ali, 42, underwent tests last month at a New York hospital. Fahn said afterwards the cause of the boxer's slurred speech and stumbling gait was Parkinson's Syndrome. Unlike degenerative Parkinson's Disease, the con-

dition can be controlled. "It is our leading diagnosis and likely to remain our leading diagnosis, though we would need an autopsy to ascertain 'Pugilistic Parkinsonism,'" Fahn said.

"With standard medication he can lead a normal life," he added. "He accepts the fact that his condition is probably due to all the punishment he took as a boxer, but he's not depressed about it. He says that he's accepted the need to take his medication, but time will tell."

Another of Ali's doctors, Dennis Cope of Los Angeles, disclosed

in the same article that Ali was taken to hospital at the University of the city of Los Angeles clinic in 1982 "for very early signs of Parkinsonism." The disorder was diagnosed a year ago.

Cope added that at the time of the initial diagnosis medication was prescribed but Ali apparently refused to take it.

In a related development, the President of the American Academy of Neurology, Dr. Nelson Richards, said in an article in the same publication that Ali's condition had prompted him to urge his organisation to join the AMA leadership in calls to ban boxing.

"Even on television it was apparent to me that he (Ali) had some kind of neurological damage," Richards said.

Lauda has problems at Nuerburgring

NUERBURGRING, West Germany (R) — World Champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil was fastest in Friday's first official practice for Sunday's European Grand Prix as Niki Lauda, the man expected to succeed him, experienced all kinds of problems.

The Austrian, who leads the World Championship standings and could seal the title here, was well down in 15th place and must hope for better luck Saturday to

get an improved grid position.

Lauda had to use a spare McLaren after his regular car leaked oil from the gear box during unofficial practice. But the spare developed engine problems and the Austrian said he also had difficulties later with his tyres.

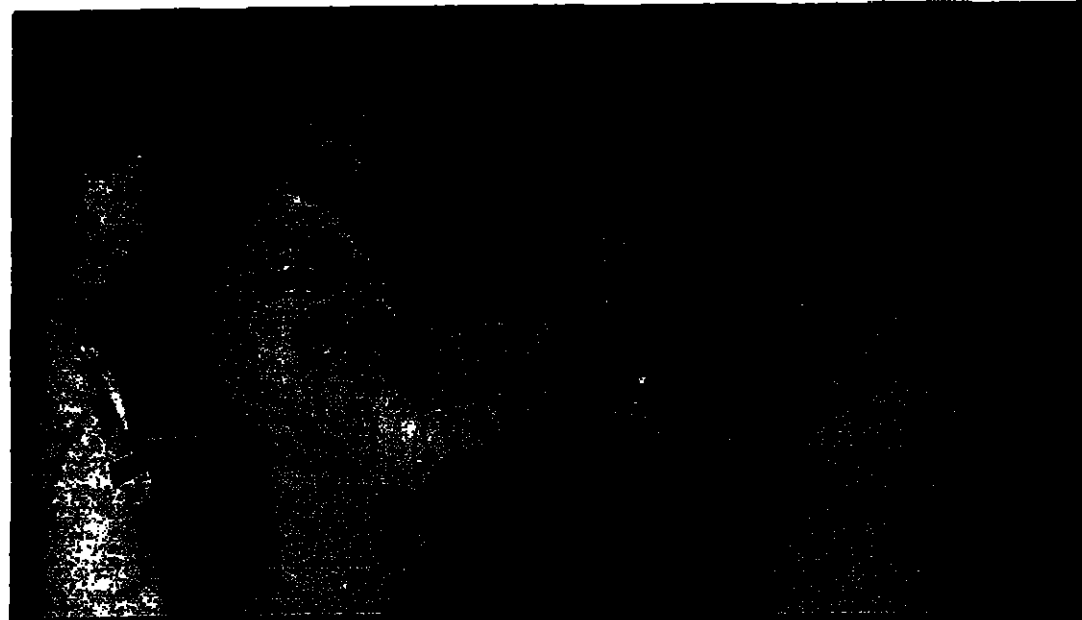
Lauda's only rival for the title, team-mate Alain Prost of France who trails by 10.5 points, had no such ill-luck.

He produced the second fastest

time of the day with one minute 19.175 seconds, just three-tenths of a second slower than Piquet.

Prost must finish ahead of Lauda to keep his chances alive for the final race of the season in Portugal on October 21.

Patrick Tambay of France was third fastest in a Renault ahead of Finn Keke Rosberg's Williams and the two Ferraris driven by Italy's Michele Alboreto and Rene Arnoux of France.



Member of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division receiving Tae Kwan Do Championship trophy Thursday

Fourth Royal Mechanised Division wins army Tae Kwan Do Championship

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Armed Forces 1984 Tae Kwan Do Championship was won by the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division team. It won by beating the Special Forces team by virtue of having more winners in the individual events. Both teams had accumulated 21 points in the contest held at the Al Hussein Sports Palace Thursday. It was the first

time that the Special Forces team has lost the championship of this martial art tournaments, organised by the Military Sports Federation. At the end of the match the team's head received the championship cup from the commander of the artillery corps who deputised for the army chief of staff in attending the competition.

Ramtha, Wihdat draw 2-2

AMMAN (J.T.) — Wihdat and Ramtha football clubs drew 2-2 Friday afternoon at Al Hussein Youth City stadium. The match

was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. Proceeds from the match will go to help financing of the Jordanian Tae Kwan Do Federation.

Wihdat fought hard throughout the match to try to regain their, and their fans confidence following their defeat Wednesday by Jazzera

football club in a Premier Division match.

Ramtha also played with a fighting spirit to complete a most exciting match.

At the end of the match Prince Hassan presented the national Jordanian Tae Kwan Do team trainer Mr. Mikhled Al Assaf a cup on behalf of both teams.

Amman Little League

Results games played Sept. 5th

Tots	Joliff Red/White 2	Joliff Blue 0
Juniors	Grindlays 2	Peugeot 0-
Arab Wings 1	International Traders 0	
Chase Manhattan 2	Marriott 1	
Al Ahlya 6	Holiday Inn 0	

Mids	American Express 0
Lego 2	Telcom 1
Goodyear 4	Astra 2
ALICO 4	Jordan Express 0
Intercon 7	

Seniors	Cairo-Amman 0
Ericsson 1	Volvo 0
Foxboro 0	

Adults	Team USA 0
Hishan 0	Yanks 1
U.K. 5	ACS Students 0
French 1	

Tots	STANDINGS									
	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts			
Joliff Blue	4	2	1	1	3	2	5			
Joliff Red/White	4	1	2	1	2	3	3			
Juniors										
Al Ahlya	4	4	0	0	23	1	8			
Grindlays	4	4	0	0	11	0	8			
Chase Manhattan	4	2	1	1	6	4	5			
Arab Wings	4	1	2	1	2	7	3			
Peugeot	4	1	3	0	5	9	2			
International Traders	4	1	3	0	1	7	2			
Marriott	4	1	3	0	2	12	2			
Holiday Inn	4	1	3	0	2	13	2			
Mids										
ALICO	4	4	0	0	19	3	8			
Lego	4	2	0	2	6	3	6			
Goodyear	4	2	1	1	10	9	5			
Astra	4	2	2	0	11	8	4			
Intercon	4	1	2	1	9	6	3			
American Express	4	1	2	1	5	8	3			
Telcom	4	1	2	1	5	10	3			
Jordan Express	4	0	4	0	0	18	0			
Seniors										
Ericsson	4	2	1	1	7	4	5			
Foxboro	4	1	0	3	7	5	5			
Volvo	4	1	0	3	6	5	5			
Cairo-Amman	4	0	3	1	5	11	1			

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HIGH ROAD TO CHINA
(Colour)

3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema
ZAHARAN

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Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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INTRUSION CAMBODIA
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Riyadh levies imported cables

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia has imposed a 20 per cent customs duty on imported electric cables to protect local industries, Deputy Commerce Minister Abdul Rahman Al Zamel was quoted Thursday as saying.

He told the Jeddah-based *Shatq Al-Awsat* newspaper the decision was taken by the Saudi council of ministers at a meeting on Monday night.

The move appeared to be in retaliation for a decision by the European Community (EC) last June to impose a 13.5 per cent duty on imports of Saudi petrochemical products on the grounds that the kingdom had exhausted its duty free export quota, economists here said.

Mr. Al Zamel accused the

community of putting obstacles in the way of Saudi Arabian products.

"I personally used to argue with local businessmen on the merits of free trade, but we have to admit that the world is adopting more protective stands," he told the newspaper.

"The EC's imposition of a 13.5 per cent tariff on Saudi petrochemicals proved to me that what I used to say is not justifiable ... while we called for free trade the very people who preached these principles started to put obstacles before us," Mr. Al Zamel said.

He said the Saudi government had no hesitation in responding to what he called logical demands and pressures from local bus-

inessmen and the private sector, "provoked by the European action."

Asked whether a new trend of protective measures had started in the kingdom, Mr. Al Zamel replied: "I don't know about a new trend ... our policy of protection is clear and I think many Saudi industries can improve, expand and enter new markets if they are protected."

Under Saudi regulations, local industries are eligible for government protection if they cover sizeable parts of local needs and if their products are of good quality.

Electric cables production in the kingdom covers more than 50 per cent of local demand. Current production stands at 40,000 to 45,000 tonnes a year.

OECD says world oil surplus remains

PARIS (Agencies) — The world still has an overall oil surplus although consumption has risen faster than expected in industrial countries and production remains below its agreed ceiling, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Friday, in its monthly oil market report.

Crude production by members of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) remains below their 17.5 Million Barrels a Day (MBD) output ceiling, the agency said.

The overall oil surplus continues to keep prices on the free oil market below official contract prices.

The IEA revised its estimate of oil consumption growth in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations upwards to 3.5 per cent from two per cent in the second quarter of 1984 over the same period in 1983.

It left unchanged its year-on-year OECD oil consumption growth estimate of two per cent in the third quarter of 1984.

IEA member countries' oil imports rose for the first time since 1980 in the first half of 1984 to 13.4 MBD from 12.2 MBD a year

earlier.

The IEA estimated OPEC production at 16.8 MBD in the third quarter of 1984 compared to 19 MBD in the third quarter of 1983 and its self-imposed quota of 17.5 MBD.

Saudi Arabia had its lowest monthly average production so far this year at an estimated four MBD, the IEA said. But a rise in production by non-OPEC countries to 27.1 MBD in the third quarter from 26.8 MBD in the second quarter helped to maintain an oil surplus, the IEA added.

The agency estimated a surplus of 700,000 barrels per day in the third quarter of 1984, down one MBD from the second quarter and well below the three MBD surplus in the third quarter of 1983.

Spot crude prices rose by \$0.15 to \$20.25 per barrel in September but were \$0.30 to \$0.70 per barrel under contract or official prices for U.S. and Gulf oil and \$1.30 to \$1.50 per barrel under official levels for Africa and the North Sea.

The IEA said OECD nations had stocks totalling 429 million tonnes of oil, the equivalent of 94 days' consumption, on Oct. 1, not counting oil at sea.

EC fails to agree terms for Spain, Portugal entry

BRUSSELS (R) — The Common Market's failure to agree on key entry conditions for Spain and Portugal was seen by its officials Thursday as a serious setback for the two states' bid to join the European Community (EC) by Jan. 1, 1986.

The Spanish and Portuguese foreign ministers reacted angrily when the bloc was unable to narrow internal splits blocking the enlargement negotiations at a meeting Wednesday in Luxembourg.

Diplomats said Thursday the strong public reaction from the two ministers after months of private pressure to end the stalemate was aimed at galvanising the community into action.

But the community appeared unlikely to overcome the differences before its December summit in Dublin, they added.

They said a widely-welcomed budget deal by community foreign ministers on Tuesday which relieved the bloc's immediate cash crisis had also eased some of the pressure within the group to complete negotiations with Spain and Portugal.

Community leaders continue to reassure the Iberian nations that they are determined to bring them into the group by the 1986 target

date but Madrid and Lisbon are distressed by the inability to act on these assurances.

Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran Wednesday spoke of the community's "near pathological inability" to define crucial entry conditions.

The negotiations were originally due to be completed by Sept. 30 to allow enough time for ratification of the accession treaties by national parliaments. No new date has been set.

The community is divided on how to tackle massive production of wine and olive oil, with Italy and Greece blocking attempts to curb production before Spain's entry.

They are also divided about tariff reductions for industrial and farm products and what access, if any, to grant Spain's huge fishing fleet.

There are much fewer problems with Portuguese entry but there are

have been parallel negotiations so far as several states feel that to complete talks with Portugal before Spain may indicate a willingness to keep Spain out of the group.

Meanwhile, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block Thursday criticised the EC for refusing to discuss a ban on agricultural export subsidies which he said were hindering free trade.

The community's rejection of draft recommendations on farm trade from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) would make it difficult for the U.S. administration to hold out against a rising tide of protectionism, he said.

"We are working very hard to hold the line, but the problems are enormous and this does not make it any easier," Mr. Block told reporters in a televised news conference from Washington.

GATT's suggestion last week that its agriculture committee discuss a ban on subsidies was welcomed by the community's major competitors who argue the 10-nation bloc's farm subsidy system allows its farmers to compete unfairly on world markets.

British unemployment worsens

LONDON (R) — Britain's unemployment Thursday jumped to a record 13.6 per cent of the workforce from 12.9 last month, inflicting a sharp blow to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her hopes of economic recovery.

The figures — showing 3,283,640 out of work last month — will increase pressure on the ruling Conservatives to loosen the purse strings and shift the emphasis of their economic strategy from wringing down inflation to creating new jobs.

Analysts said the figures fuelled fears that the economic recovery which in the past two years has pulled Britain out of the worst recession in half a century was running out of steam.

The total number of unemployed jumped by 167,752.

The unemployment shock comes at a bad time for Mrs. Thatcher's government, demoralised by a bitter seven-month-long miners' strike which has been draining at least £20 million (\$25 million), a week from state coffers.

Opposition Labour Party leader Mr. Neil Kinnock branded the figures as "shameful, wasteful and inexcusable."

The Trades Union Congress, representing 10 million workers, said the government had set another wretched record which was "a damning indictment" that its economic policies were not working.

Employment Secretary Tom King acknowledged the figures were disappointing. He said rising labour costs were hurting Britain's competitiveness and jeopardising job prospects.

He said more than half the extra jobs were school leavers who, if they did not get jobs in the market place, would be absorbed into the government's youth training scheme.

The figures will be an acute embarrassment for chancellor of the exchequer Mr. Nigel Lawson, who predicted last year that unemployment would start falling by the end of 1984.

Political sources said he would bear calls at next week's Conservative Party conference to shift priority from fighting inflation — now 5.1 per cent — to reducing unemployment.

West Germany Wednesday reported its jobless rate falling to 8.6 per cent from 8.9 per cent last month.

U.S. unemployment rate drops

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. unemployment rate declined slightly to 7.4 per cent in September, bringing more good news for President Reagan in his campaign to win a second term in office.

Labour Department figures Friday showed a decline of 0.1 per cent on the number of people out of work in August and July.

The gradual fall in the jobless rate, which was in line with market expectations, tends to confirm that the American economy has entered a period of more moderate expansion.

Tentative government estimates indicate the economy expanded at an annual rate of 3.6 per cent between July and September, only about half as fast as during the first half of the year.

White House officials seem confident that the more subdued rate of growth will keep the economy on a steady course and be accompanied by greater job opportunities, only mild inflation and declining interest rates.

Such optimism is being repeated frequently by President Reagan and his supporters as the Nov. 6 election approaches.

But Democratic challenger Mr. Walter Mondale argues the economy will falter under the weight of huge federal budget deficits. Mr. Mondale says the improvement in the jobs picture over the past two years is a mirage because many pockets of the country still suffer high levels of joblessness.

Nationally, the unemployment rate has declined from a post-war peak of 10.7 per cent, reached in November 1982 when the country was just about to emerge from recession.

The rate now stands at roughly the same level it was when Reagan entered the White House in 1981.

According to the latest figures, the slowdown in the recovery has reduced the economy's ability to create jobs.

Total employment grew by 270,000 last month, reaching 185.5 million people, while unemployment fell by just 66,000 to 8.5 million. Since the economy shrugged off the recession in late 1982, about 3.5 million people have found work.

U.S. bank announces big losses

CHICAGO (R) — First Chicago Corp., the holding company for the tenth largest bank in the United States, Wednesday reported heavy loan losses.

It was the third major U.S. bank holding company to announce significant losses this year.

First Chicago said its loan losses could be as high as \$279 million in the third quarter this year and anticipated a net loss between \$70 million and \$74 million for the same period.

The firm, the holding company for the First National Bank of Chicago, said its troublesome loans were mainly in energy and agriculture in the United States and in shipping and construction abroad.

First Chicago Chairman Barry Sullivan said that 1984 profit "will be lower than we had earlier anticipated" but that the bank felt "a provision of this magnitude is a one-time event."

Following the charge-offs, First Chicago said its non-performing assets dropped to about \$840 million as of Sept. 30, compared with \$918 million on June 30.

At a press conference announcing the loan losses, Mr. Sullivan said First Chicago had no problem raising funds abroad. Mr. Sullivan said a routine examination by the Office of the U.S. Comptroller of the Currency, which oversees the financial performance of banks, reached "the same conclusions" as an internal First Chicago study on the need to raise charge-offs.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares closed mixed in thin trade, dealers said. The F.T.S.E. index at 1430 Friday was up 2.8 at 1124.9 after 1119.0 at 0845.

B.P. was up 7p at 498 after 490 while GKN was unchanged at 173 after 169. T.G. Group extended Thursday's 30p fall by 4p at 186 on its forecast that second half profit may not improve from the second half of 1983.

Conventional government bonds showed mixed movements of 1/16 point in quiet trade but index linked bonds were as much as one point higher. North Americans were firm and golds dull.

Operators regained confidence in banks after Lloyds International said an internal document quoted in the press relates to trading in 1st 1/2 1984 which has been fully accounted for. Lloyds ended 12p lower at 492 after 489. Barclays was off 2p at 499 after 489 but Natwest rose 5p to 542 after 532.

Blue Circle was up 7p to 420. BICC rose 5p to 228 and ICI 6p to 658. British Aerospace firmed 7p to 370 on recent news of its U.S. navy order, drawing Babcock 5p firmer to 135.

Shell 7p up at 673 and Premier Coas 3p up at 64 1/2 on speculation Carless Capel may renew its bid. Currys was up 7p at 414 on rumours of a counter to a Dixon's bid.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.2433/43	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3148/51	Canadian dollars
	3.0277/87	West German marks
	3.4150/65	Dutch guilders
	2.5080/95	Swiss francs
	61.3841	Belgian francs
	9.2850/2950	French francs
	1878.25/1879.25	Italian lire
	246.65/80	Japanese yen
	8.5950/6050	Swedish crowns
	8.7600/7700	Norwegian crowns
	10.9600/9700	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	346.25/346.75	U.S. dollars

World copper market may improve

LONDON (R) — The world copper market, which was devastated by industrial recession at the start of the decade, appears to be in its healthiest state since 1979 and should see rising prices over the next two years, a leading firm of American metal traders said Thursday.

Shearson Lehman American Express said Western consumption of copper should exceed production in 1984 for the first

time in five years. Taking into account sales to Socialist countries, the industry should be able to start reducing the massive stocks built up between 1980 and 1983.

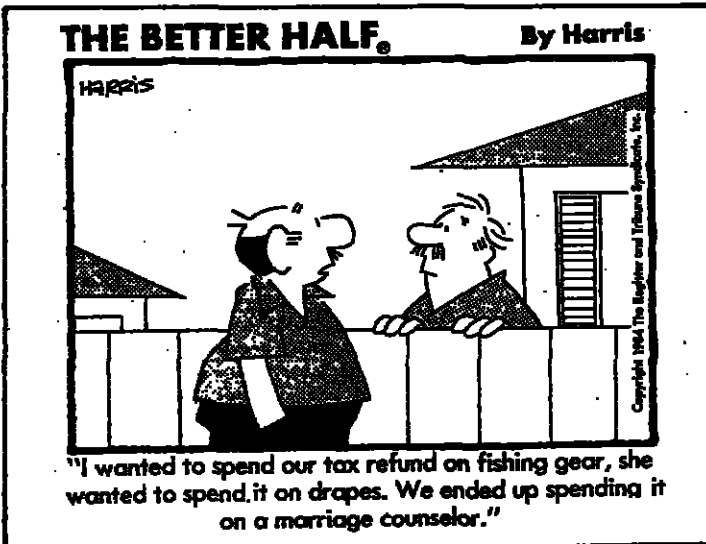
The report, compiled by Shearson's London metals research unit, forecast average prices of 70 to 75 cents per lb in 1985 and 1986 compared to the present 56 cents, but warned that any increase would be muted if the U.S.

dollar remained strong or America's economic recovery came to a halt.

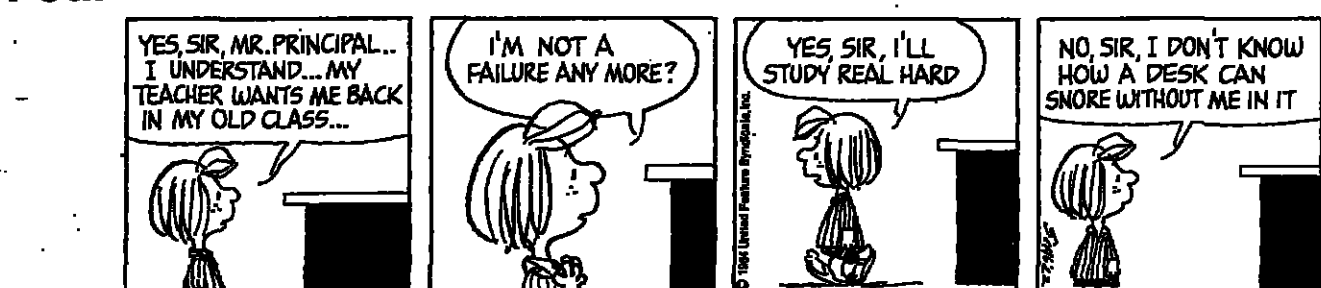
Copper prices reached peaks of more than \$1.40 per pound in early 1980 but then slumped dramatically as industrial demand crashed worldwide and new mines came on stream.

In the longer term, Shearson said there was unlikely to be any copper shortage in the world.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Herd Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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CEEDOD

NICRIO

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: WASN'T

Answers tomorrow!

Saturday's Jumble: DRAWL COACH WHALER MUSKET

Answer: The ship docked near the barbershop because they all needed this—CREW CUTS

THE Daily Crossword by J. & P. Barrick

ACROSS

- Daughter of a lord
- Sacks
- Movie dog
- Muscat and—
- Consume
- Female animals
- Cloying
- Achievement
- "The Children's—"
- Still
- Native of Calif.
- Table centerpiece
- Shred
- Snack
- Long-eared animal
- Crossants
- Certain worker
- Pertaining to taste
- Time of happiness
- Cameo
- Avian cry
- Entrusts
- Fix
- Ship of myth
- Cavity
- Displaced person
- Sash
- Cal wine city
- Sine
- Sermon
- Makes palatable
- Amerind
- Adorne
- Neighbor of Minn.
- Battle
- Slip away
- Trucking rig

DOWN

- John — Passes
- Drs. grp.
- Large knife
- Audience's cry
- Get, in a way
- Sweep
- Of the ear
- Bluefin
- Wheat variety
- WWI outfit
- In a pleasant way
- Prickly herb
- Fall flowers
- Keep close to
- Abandon
- Roadside
- Black-and-white bird
- Painting adjuncts
- Rent
- Mode
- Fabric interwoven with gold
- Baptize
- Mental the extreme
- To boot
- Make sound again
- Great clover
- Mission
- Mental, for one
- Mournful cry
- Stills
- Rounded
- To the opposite side
- Disgust
- Musical writing
- 51 Bow
- Knitting stitch
- Exchange premium
- 82 parrot
- 80 Elec. unit
- Headgear
- Travel on turners

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Moscow calls on Reagan to move towards better ties

MOSCOW (R) — The Kremlin has praised Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko for his efforts in talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and said the onus lies with the White House to prove it wants better relations with Moscow.

An official media report on Thursday's regular meeting to the ruling politburo said Friday the leadership had heard a report by Mr. Gromyko on his trip and praised him for "great work" in his meetings with Mr. Reagan and other foreign statesmen.

"A far-ranging exchange of views on key issues of Soviet-American relations and, in this connection, on the state of world affairs did not reveal any signs that would attest to the real intention of the American side to adjust its policy course towards realism and peacefulness," the report said.

At a Moscow press conference Thursday, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vladimir Lomeiko gave

the first relatively positive Soviet comment on last Friday's Reagan-Gromyko meeting.

"The fact that the meeting took place... is important and useful," he said. The talks were Mr. Reagan's first contact with a senior member of the Kremlin leadership.

Mr. Lomeiko, who was with Mr. Gromyko for part of the White House discussions, said the fact that the two men had met and had an opportunity of hearing each other's views was "in itself an important fact".

Some Western analysts said Mr. Lomeiko's slightly less negative interpretation of the Washington talks might imply that Moscow

was less reluctant than it had first appeared to consider Mr. Reagan's overtures.

They said it appeared possible that the talks had done more good than was obvious from initial Kremlin reaction.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Kremlin wanted Mr. Reagan to put forward concrete objectives before agreeing to the regular high-level contacts he had proposed as a means of improving relations.

The report of the politburo meeting said Moscow was convinced that U.S.-Soviet relations could be improved, but only on the basis of "equality, mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of one another."

"The U.S. government's readiness to act in this way will always meet a proper response from the Soviet side," it said.

The United States has expressed willingness to discuss the

subject, but linked it to nuclear arms reduction issues in a way that Moscow rejected as evasive and unacceptable.

"At this time it is not a desire to have negotiations that is most important, but a desire to have concrete negotiations with a view to reaching a concrete agreement," Mr. Lomeiko said.

"We have yet to hear a statement related to a concrete objective with regard to these negotiations."

Mr. Lomeiko said Moscow would be willing to consider a proposal by Mr. Reagan for regular high-level U.S.-Soviet contacts once the United States stated a concrete objective for discussion.

Diplomats said Mr. Lomeiko's remarks tended to confirm the view that despite their lack of apparent results, last week's contacts may help end the impasse in U.S.-Soviet relations.

CARRIER UNDER CONSTRUCTION — This showing the Soviet Union's new 75,000-ton nuclear aircraft carrier under construction at the Nikolayev 444 Yard on the Black Sea (AP wire photo)

80 E. Germans seek exit to West

BONN (R) — At least 80 East Germans were camped in West Germany's embassy in Prague seeking exit to the West, more than twice the number previously reported, chief West German government spokesman Peter Boenisch said Friday.

He told a regular news conference that there were at least 20 children among the refugees, who have been camped in the embassy for at least a week.

West Germany announced Thursday night that it had temporarily closed its mission in the Czechoslovak capital.

"We are doing everything in our

power to resolve this situation... but we know that negotiations (with the East Germans) will be very tough indeed," Mr. Boenisch said.

Announcing the closure of the Prague embassy Thursday night, Bonn appealed to East Germans seeking to go to the West not to try and exit via visas by occupying West German missions.

Government sources said East and West Germany were engaged in delicate talks to end the occupation but they were moving at snail's pace.

East Germany has said it will not take legal steps against the

refugees but will not grant them exit permits, West German government sources said Thursday.

Mr. Boenisch said East Germany had warned Bonn that it would no longer grant exit permits to people who tried to extort them.

The clampdown follows a spate of occupations earlier this year.

In January, six East Germans used occupation of the U.S. embassy in East Berlin as an exit route.

In June, about 50 East Germans occupied Bonn's permanent mission in East Berlin and were allowed to go to the West after weeks of confidential talks.

Cosmonauts adjusting to earth gravity

MOSCOW (R) — The three Soviet cosmonauts who returned to earth on Tuesday after 34 weeks in space feel heavy and as if they were recovering from a long illness, the Communist Party daily Pravda reported Friday.

It said the men were readjusting to the pull of gravity after a record 238 days in weightless conditions aboard the Salyut-7 space station.

"Up to now they feel like people do after a long illness," it said, adding that this had been the assessment of crew member Oleg Atkov, a medical doctor and heart specialist.

"I wake up in the morning and my first thought is why didn't I break the bed. That's how much I feel the weight," said Flight Eng-

ineer Vladimir Solovoyov. In a photograph accompanying the Pravda report, Solovoyov was shown leaning against mission commander Leonid Kizim.

Pravda said doctors were not unduly worried by the men's condition. Atkov said he would be out walking in the park by the weekend.

U.S. backs Contadora peace process

NEW YORK (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz says the United States backs the Central American peace process even though it has strong doubts about a draft treaty proposed by the so-called Contadora Group.

The Contadora countries — Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia — presented the draft to the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday.

The Reagan administration, which has long expressed support for the group's efforts, suffered a diplomatic setback when leftist Nicaragua swiftly agreed to sign what Washington sees as a flawed document.

"You have to distinguish between the process and a particular proposal," Mr. Shultz told a press conference. "We didn't say in advance that any proposal you

come up with is automatically going to be good."

The document is open for comment by the countries concerned until Oct. 15, and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales said there would be a "polishing up" process.

But it was not immediately clear whether Washington's Central American allies — El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica — would obtain the modifications sought by the Reagan administration as a lever to change Nicaragua's policies. The United States is not officially part of the Contadora process.

Mr. Shultz appeared to express confidence when he said it was clear that the Central American countries concerned "think there are some things that could be done that will make the (treaty) a much

better document. And it seems to me that's in the spirit of Contadora — to make it work."

The Senate Wednesday again refused to end U.S. support for rebels trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government, setting up another confrontation with the House of Representatives.

By a 57-42 vote, the Republican-controlled chamber rejected a Democratic move to phase out U.S. involvement in the so-called "covert war" by providing \$2 million to withdraw the rebels from Nicaragua and \$4 million to resettle them elsewhere.

The provision was offered as an amendment to an 1985 omnibus spending bill that is understood to contain \$28 million to continue support for the rebels, known as "contras," through Sept. 30, 1985.

Anti-apartheid bill thwarted in Congress

WASHINGTON (R) — A decision by Congress to apply economic sanctions against South Africa has been thwarted on a technicality.

The move to bar U.S. bank loans to the Pretoria government because of its apartheid race segregation policies was contained in a bill aimed at extending presidential authority to control exports.

But on Thursday a congressional committee seeking to resolve different versions of the bill passed by the Senate and House of Representatives gave up its efforts to reach agreement on the legislation.

Since Congress is expected to adjourn for the rest of the year by the end of this week or early next week, there will not be enough time to complete the bill. The provision on loans to Pretoria will therefore not become law.

If the bill had passed, it would have been the first time that Congress had approved economic sanctions against South Africa.

The House-Senate Conference Committee failed to agree on whether the Defense Department should be allowed to review exports of strategic goods such as

computer parts and communications equipment which might end up in Communist countries.

Under the previous export administration act, which expired last March, the Commerce Department had jurisdiction over such exports.

Senate members of the committee wanted to give the Defense Department the authority to oversee exports, but this was opposed by the House of Representatives.

Since the previous act expired, President Reagan has been using emergency authority to control exports. This required him to declare that an economic emergency exists in effect and some exporters, contending there is no emergency, have challenged this in court.

It was unclear whether the administration would try to seek a simple one-year extension of the export administration act in place of the bill which failed.

Dissidents' plea rejected

Meanwhile two anti-apartheid groups Friday condemned the United States' refusal to offer refuge to six anti-apartheid dissidents in an American diplomatic mission in South Africa.

The United Democratic Front and the Natal Indian Congress, six of whose leaders have been in the British consulate in Durban for three weeks, called on the United States "to transcend mere rhetoric and take more aggressive action."

The white-led government has issued detention orders for the six men, to be served when they emerge from the diplomatic immunity of the British consulate.

Lawyers for the six last week declared British support for the activists "inadequate" and asked the United States and three other Western governments for alternative sanctuary. Britain has said the six can remain in the consulate, but that it will not negotiate for them.

On Thursday, U.S. Ambassador Herman Nickel informed lawyers for the six the American government would offer temporary diplomatic refuge only in cases of "imminent bodily harm."

The six dissidents in the British consulate did not fall into that category, Mr. Nickel said.

The response from the two groups said the U.S. position "is not surprising. It is consistent with its past total support for the South African government."

Suharto to uphold Indonesian ideology

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — President Suharto pledged Friday that the Indonesian Armed Forces would never become a military dictatorship.

At a ceremony marking the armed forces' 39th anniversary, Mr. Suharto said the Indonesian ideology of Pancasila (five principles) — belief in God, humanity, nationalism, democracy and social justice — "constitutes a guarantee that we will not degenerate toward the direction of militarism or military dictatorship."

Mr. Suharto has given such assurances several times this year to counter critics' charges of heavy-handed army leadership.

The latest criticism followed the army's action to put down a riot in north Jakarta three weeks ago. At least 18 people were killed and more than 50 injured. Unofficial reports said 28 people were killed and more than 90 injured.

Congress undermining ties with Turkey, envoy says

WASHINGTON (R) — Turkey's U.S. ambassador has charged, just hours after his country won a legislative victory in the U.S. Senate, that the "hostile" attitude of Congress was undermining relations between the two allies.

Ambassador Sakau Elekdag told a seminar on U.S.-Turkish relations Thursday that "the extremely hostile attitude of Congress to Turkey... struck at the inmost sensitivity of the Turkish people."

Earlier, during an all-night session on a government spending bill, the Senate refused by a vote of 51-46 to make part of U.S. military aid to Turkey conditional on Turkish moves to settle a lengthy dispute with Greece over Cyprus.

The administration strongly opposed the amendment to make \$215 million in military aid to Turkey contingent on the Turkish-held town of Famagusta, Cyprus, being put under United Nations auspices for resettlement of refugees.

The White House threatened that President Reagan would veto the measure if the restriction was included.

There have also been efforts in Congress to cut overall U.S. military aid to Turkey because of concern about the continuing dispute over Cyprus.

In a related development Fri-

day, two members of Congress accused the State Department of buckling under pressure from Turkey to block a bill for a day of remembrance for 1.5 million Armenians killed in Turkey between 1915 and 1923.

Assistant Senate Democratic leader Alan Cranston and Representative Tony Coelho told a news conference the State Department did not object when the Armenian "genocide" bill passed the House of Representatives last month.

But they said the department had since blocked action in the Senate judiciary committee where the bill is pending.

"The State Department's apparent flip-flop can be traced to the strong pressure exerted by the government of Turkey," Mr. Coelho said.

Mr. Coelho said the Turkish government, whether intentionally or not, misrepresented the resolution and "has whipped up a climate of hysteria within Turkey that is unwarranted and potentially dangerous."

Mr. Elekdag, in his remarks, said he regretted that he could not fully endorse a statement by Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle, who told the seminar that relations between the two NATO allies had never been better.

Marcos accuses cardinal Sin of inciting rebellion

MANILA (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos Friday accused the Archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, of fanning the flames of rebellion in the Philippines.

Mr. Marcos criticized Sin for a speech on Tuesday in which he urged businessmen to join non-violent street protests against what he called repression and authoritarian rule.

"The cardinal's words tend to fan the flames of rebellion... It means he would encourage killings," Mr. Marcos said in a television address.

He said Sin, an unrelenting critic of the government, had violated the country's constitution which calls for the separation of church and state.

He said the cardinal had in past elections engaged in partisan politics by supporting certain candidates.

Mr. Marcos, saying that the Philippines was now engaged in delicate talks with the International Monetary Fund and commercial banks for an economic recovery programme, appealed for calm.

Argentina, Chile solve border dispute

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina and Chile have reached agreement after five years of talks at the Vatican on how to end the century-old Beagle Channel border dispute that led them to the brink of war in 1978.

Diplomatic sources said the agreement granted three tiny islands in the area of the Beagle Channel — Lennox, Picton and Nueva — to Chile.

They said it also reflected the so-called bi-oceanic principle whereby Argentina controls Atlantic waters and Chile controls

Pacific waters off the tip of South America.

"I am proud to represent a people that has opted for the path of respect and peace between men," Argentine President Raul Alfonsin said Thursday night before reading on nationwide radio and television a Vatican communiqué announcing the agreement.

In Santiago, Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle said the statement was excellent news and added: "I was always very optimistic. Now I see that the process has culminated."

The head of Chile's delegation

to the Vatican talks said no details would be published until a final treaty was ready.

Pope John Paul has mediated the dispute over islands and waters at the extreme tip of South America since early 1979, shortly after he helped avert at the last minute a full-scale Argentine attack on Chile.

The two countries have disputed rights over the area of the Beagle Channel since 1881. At issue also are the effects of these rights on their overlapping claims in Antarctica.

'Moscow did not gain much from alleged spy'

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. espionage experts said they doubted whether Moscow gained much more than it already knew from Richard Miller, the FBI agent alleged to have spied for the Soviet Union.

Miller, 47, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Los Angeles office, was arrested on Tuesday night on charges of violating U.S. espionage laws by passing classified documents to the Soviet Union.

Arrested on the same charges were a Soviet emigre couple, Nikolai and Svetlana Ogorodnikov, who were described as officers in the KGB, the Soviet intelligence agency.

In the jargon of the intelligence community, Ms. Svetlana, 34, is alleged to have been the "honeypot" who seduced Miller, portrayed as a studious father of eight with financial problems who lived on a small avocado farm near San Diego.

A pale, slight woman, she met Miller while he was interviewing Soviet emigres, mostly Jews who had been allowed to leave and had

settled in Los Angeles.

FBI officials say the case involves the first known security breach in the 76-year history of the national crime-fighting organization.

They say Miller apparently found a sympathetic ear and revealed, in what they called numerous personal meetings with Mrs. Ogorodnikova, his private, professional and financial problems.

He is alleged to have decided to supplement his \$50,000-a-year salary by selling for \$50,000 in gold and \$15,000 in cash some secret FBI documents that he promised to deliver to a Soviet agent in Mexico City.

The Ogorodnikovs, who had jobs as a butcher and a day nurse respectively, told him money was no problem, according to the FBI, which had trailed the trio and tapped their phones.

The FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) have long prided themselves on being free from foreign-employed spies within their ranks, unlike the British and West German intelligence agencies which have had num-

erous instances of infiltration. FBI Director William Webster, announcing the three arrests, said it was "a very sad day for us."

But Attorney General William French Smith said damage to U.S. intelligence "had been significantly limited."

"It's a bad day for the FBI but it's not a drastic blow," said Ray Cline, former deputy director of the CIA.

An affidavit submitted to a court said Miller had given Mrs. Ogorodnikova a classified document entitled "Reporting Guidance: Foreign Intelligence Information."

Mr. Cline said this would "give a clear indication of what we know and what we don't know and that's very helpful."

U.S. hopes to question mafia turncoat to arrest gangs

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. officials say they hope to import a turncoat mafia chief from Italy to help with inquiries into American organized crime.

One official, listing subjects they want Tommaso Buscetta to talk about and possibly testify on, said: "We think Tommaso can tell us quite a lot. We plan to spend a lot of time with him."

The subjects range from the 1979 murder of New York crime boss Carmine Galante to the killings of 15 other mobsters and the sudden prominence in the U.S. underworld of Sicilian drug dealers working independently of their American counterparts.

Authorities believe the Sicilian immigrants could provide leaders to replace ageing U.S. gangsters.

Mr. Buscetta's confession, covering 3,000 typewritten pages, has led to the arrest of scores of mafia figures in Italy's biggest crackdown on the criminal organization since World War II.

Based on his information, Italian officials asked their U.S. counterparts to round up 30 underworld figures for extradition.

U.S. officials have told the 30 that extradition hearings will begin in next month.

U.S. investigators said Mr. Buscetta lived for almost a decade in New York and had high-level ties with every organized crime family in the city.

They think he can provide information on mafia activities including 15 murders dating back to the 1960s and the Galante killing.

Galante, reputed boss of the Bonanno crime family, was shot dead in a Brooklyn restaurant nine years after Mr. Buscetta fled the United States for Brazil to avoid extradition to Italy, where he was wanted on charges con-

ected with the massacre of seven policemen and three bystanders in Sicily.

From Brazil Mr. Buscetta kept close ties with U.S. crime families and, Italian crime experts said, was one of the first in the mafia to go into the international drug business in a big way.

Police have strong theories on why Galante was murdered but have lacked evidence to bring his killers to justice.

U.S. officials think Buscetta has information on the so-called "pizza connection," the largest heroin-importing ring ever broken up in the United States. The ring got its nickname because it was alleged to have used pizza parlours as fronts to move heroin worth \$1.650 million into the United States.

About 40 people have been indicted in the case, including the 30 whose extradition is being sought by Italy.

New York Police Thursday called off their search of a spot in the East River where they had found two bodies and eight cars.

The bodies of New York State Policemen Richard Snyder, missing since Sept. 20, and Philadelphia gangster Robert Frattello, missing since 1979, were found neatly wrapped in two of the submerged cars.

Detectives believe the two were killed and dumped in the river by suspected mob hitman Edward Esposito who was found hanged in a New Jersey wood last week in what police said was a suicide. Police said the other six cars were empty except for a bone which they first thought was human but later said was from an animal. Police said Esposito killed Snyder after finding him with Esposito's estranged wife.

Conqueror of Everest appointed envoy to India

NEW DELHI (R) — Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Mount Everest, has been appointed as New Zealand's envoy to India, Prime Minister David Lange said Thursday. "As one of New Zealand's best known and most widely respected citizens and as a person who has had a long-standing connection with the Indian subcontinent, he has very special credentials to serve as New Zealand's man in the region." Mr. Lange said here in a statement. Sir Edmund Hillary would also be accredited to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal, Mr. Lange added. Hillary will be high commissioner here and reopen New Zealand's diplomatic mission, closed as a cost-cutting measure in 1982 by the Conservative government ousted by Mr. Lange's Labour Party in elections in July.

Students to vote on suicide pill

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (R) — Students will vote here next week on whether their university should stockpile suicide pills to be taken in the event of nuclear war. Jason Salzman, a student at Brown University, said the so-called "suicide referendum" was a more realistic response to the nuclear threat than "absurd" civil defence plans because it would spare victims a slow death from radiation sickness. "All it does is offer us a choice. The pills would be completely optional," Salzman wrote in a student newspaper. "As President Reagan said in a 1983 speech: 'For the sake of peace and justice, let us move toward a world in which all people are at least free to determine their own destiny.' The vote, to be taken on Oct. 10 and 11, will not be binding on the university administration."

Montreal to host Ramses exhibition

CAIRO (AP) — Visiting Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau signed an agreement with the chairman of the Egyptian antiquities authority to stage a large exhibition of ancient Egyptian artefacts in Montreal next year, a Canadian official said. The display, which will comprise 75 items dating from the period of the noted Pharaoh Ramses II, will be held at the former French Pavilion at the Expo 67 grounds in Montreal between June 1 — Oct. 15, 1984. Michel Lambert, director of exhibitions with the city of Montreal told the Associated Press. The exhibition will include sarcophagi, thrones, ancient instruments, as well as gold ornaments and jewellery. Mr. Lambert said. He added that the exhibits, which are being shown in North America for the first time, will be flown to Canada aboard specially chartered flights.

Snoring said to be a health hazard

SYDNEY (R) — Habitual snorers are more likely to contract heart disease and hypertension than those who sleep silently, according to a research study by two doctors. Snoring can also cause excessive sleepiness in the day and affect sexual performance, according to the report by Nicholas Saunders, professor of medicine at Newcastle University, and Les Olson of Westmead Hospital, Sydney. The doctors found that about 20 per cent of Australians snored but this climbed to 50 per cent among middle-aged and elderly people. They said there was no evidence that occasional snorers were at risk but heavy snorers were more prone to car and industrial accidents and drinking alcohol made snoring worse. Most patients with a snoring problem were men in their forties, but women and children were not exempt.

Museum probes attack on painting

DALLAS (R) — The Dallas Museum of Art is trying to determine how a painting on loan from France suffered a foot-long gash while locked in a room without windows. A cut about 30 centimetres long was found on Tuesday morning in the centre of The Garden, one of 61 paintings in an exhibition of works by French post-impressionist artist Pierre Bonnard. Assistant Museum Director Tom Livesay told a press conference that "We have not yet determined if the damage is accidental or deliberate."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A94 ♠ A1093 ♦ 4 ♣ K10843
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Dble
Rdble 3 ♦ ?
What action do you take?

Q.2 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K983 ♠ Q932 ♦ AKJ9 ♠ 10
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.3 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K983 ♠ Q932 ♦ AKJ9 ♠ 10
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♦ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
Q.4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AKJ73 ♠ K1087 ♠ K752
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ KQJ97632 ♠ 6 ♠ 9654
What is your opening bid?

Q.6 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K ♠ AKQJ862 ♦ KQ ♠ QJ8
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?